FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 MARCH 1987

Gulf War

Iraqi Gulf Raids — "Scores" of Iraqi aircraft participated in attacks on Iran's Cyrus and Nowruz oil fields 23 March, hitting oil platforms and setting them on fire, Iraq announced in military statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Iraqi aircraft had raided the Ardeshir oil field the previous day, setting an oil platform on fire and reducing it to rubble, according to a military communique broadcast by the radio. Iraqi spokesmen cited by the radio also announced air attacks on two maritime targets off the Iranian coast over the weekend,

Iran Warning on Gulf — Iran will "decisively counter" any foreign presence that increases instability and tension in the Gulf and it warns the United States and other foreign powers that any interference by them will meet with a "strong response." This warning was contained in a statement by an Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman, broadcast by Tehran radio 22 March. The spokesman condemned "baseless reports" about Iranian intentions to threaten the security of shipping in the Gulf, asserting that the United States is using such "misleading propaganda" to build up its military presence in the region. The United States has repeatedly created such climates in order to achieve its "sinister" objectives, the spokesman said, but the "interesting issue" this time is "the treacherous response demonstrated by some countries of the region." On the same subject, President 'Ali Khamene'i expressed regret over Kuwait's welcome for an extension of the U.S. military presence in the Gulf, the radio reported. Noting satellite reports that Iranian missiles are "pointed at the Persian Gulf," Khamene'i stressed that as Iran has the longest coastline in the Gulf it has "every right to maintain security" there.

New Year Speeches — Last year was one of "triumph and glory" in which Iran achieved "massive victories" and overcame "vicissitudes and tribulations," President Khamene'i asserted in a speech broadcast by Tehran radio at the start of the new Iranian year on 21 March. Iran has come a long way in the 8 years since the revolution, but there is still a long way to go, he said, adding that the new year will be one of great efforts and greater successes. The radio also broadcast a new year speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, who reaffirmed the need for fraternity among the different branches of the Armed Forces and warned that Iran could "lose everything" if it permits internal conflicts and the pursuit of "worldly desires."

President Saddam Husayn stated that Iraqis are celebrating Iran's failure to realize its "abysmal slogan" of defeating Iraq during the past year, maintaining that "the evil conspiracy has been destroyed and its wind has receded." Speaking in a 22 March message broadcast by Baghdad radio, the Iraqi leader nevertheless warned that "further vigilance and preparedness is required" because "some poison still remains in the fangs of the dying serpent," which "is still capable of biting although its backbone has been broken."

Lebanon

Security Situation — Israeli aircraft raided "terrorist" targets near Sidon on 20 and 23 March, according to IDF announcements cited by Jerusalem radio. IDF radio said the 23 March raids were on a 2-storey building housing the command of one of the "Palestinian terrorist organizations." Palestinian sources cited by Beirut radio said the attacks destroyed a Fatah office building, killing one person and wounding three. The 20 March attack on Palestinian military positions in the same area wounded one person, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon

Meanwhile, two IDF soldiers were slightly wounded when a roadside bomb exploded in the Israeli security zone on 20 March, the second such incident in a week, Jerusalem radio noted. The Fatah Revolutionary Council issued a statement claiming responsibility for a 21 March cross-border rocket attack on parts of western Galilee, which injured 10 people, Beirut radio reported. Jerusalem radio, however, maintained there were no injuries in the attack.

As for the Amal-Palestinian conflict, Beirut radio reported that further violent clashes in Burj al-Barajinah caused the airport road to be closed on 22 March.

Talks With Syria — Lebanese-Syrian talks in Damascus achieved "noticeable progress and further positive results," Radio Monte Carlo reported citing Lebanese sources. According to the sources, "all the unresolved problems were overcome" except for the sharing of power between the president and the cabinet. However, Syrian Foreign Ministry officials said this optimism was "exaggerated" and "no measurable progress was achieved" in resolving the two problems of power sharing and abolishing sectarianism, according to another Radio Monte Carlo report.

Walid Junblatt called the papers submitted in Damascus "sectarian" and voiced "major reservations" about them, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported. The PSP leader called for an extension of the security plan to cover "everyone" and said he would talk to Syrian officials about the future of political action in Beirut.

Hostage Release — Saudi hostage Khalid al-Dib, who was kidnapped 26 January, was released on 20 February, the Amal Movement announced at a news conference reported by Beirut radio.

Libya

Fall of Chad Base — Chadian forces captured Ouadi Doum 22 March, gaining control of the "strongest and most deadly" Libyan position on Chadian soil, the Chadian military command announced in a statement broadcast by Ndjamena radio. A GUNT spokesman cited by Tripoli television acknowledged that "fierce battles" were raging in the Ouadi Doum area but claimed that the forces of "lackey" Hissein Habre were "completely crushed." He added that GUNT took a large number of prisoners including French Foreign Legionnaires, Zairians, and black Americans.

Chadian military communiques carried by Ndjamena radio had earlier announced major successes against Libyan forces in the area, asserting that 786 Libyans were killed and 121 were captured in heavy fighting 45 km from Ouadi Doum 19-20 March. A Libyan Marchetti aircraft was reportedly shot down and the Chadians captured or destroyed 38 T-55 tanks and 40 BMP armored vehicles. Libya responded to these defeats with further air attacks on Fada, Ndjamena radio said. Another communique carried by the radio reported that 61 Libyans were killed in a 22 March battle near Zouar.

Terrorism — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi aired his views on terrorism in a 20 March address broadcast by Tripoli television and relayed by satellite to an international conference on terrorism in Geneva. Among Al-Qadhdhafi's accusations against the United States was his claim that the AIDS virus resulted from U.S. experiments in germ warfare. U.S. warnings that Libya is preparing to resume terrorist attacks were subsequently dismissed by JANA as "prattle and vile talk."

Egypt

Internal Situation — The authorities arrested 30 members of radical Islamic groups who participated in violent demonstrations in Sawhaj 20 March, MENA reported. The demonstrators had attacked a police force which attempted to disperse them, the agency said, adding that 11 policemen and 11 fundamentalists were injured in the ensuing violence. In another development, MENA disclosed that an NPUG candidate for the People's Assembly has been arrested on charges of inciting sectarian sedition in Kafr al-Shaykh Governorate. The candidate was among 48 Muslims and Christians arrested after an outbreak of violence in which a woman was killed and several citizens were injured in arson attacks on 20 March. A Cairo radio commentary accused "certain religious groups" of seeking to seize power through violence and criticized "certain political parties" which have fallen into a "trap" set by the Islamic extremists.

Husayn Visit — President Husni Mubarak received visiting Jordanian King Husayn 22 March, MENA reported, adding that the talks are part of "ongoing consultations and coordination efforts" aimed at establishing peace in the Middle East. In remarks broadcast by Amman television at the conclusion of his visit, Husayn noted that the talks also covered the Iran-Iraq war, adding that "our stand is clear concerning our support for Iraq." Radio Monte Carlo said the talks dealt with the "serious situation" in the Gulf arising from Iran's missile deployment along the northern coast of the Hormuz Strait.

Relations With USSR — Cairo "press sources" stated that Mubarak will visit Moscow later this year, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. An "informed" Egyptian source cited by AFP stated that the Egyptian-Soviet economic protocol signed in Moscow 20 March provides for the rescheduling of Egypt's debts to the USSR.

Israel

Pollard Affair — The government will safeguard the immunity of those who testify before the Pollard fact-finding committee, Jerusalem radio reported citing senior political sources. The attorney for three of those involved, however, rejected the prime minister's appeal for them to testify, saying there is no guarantee testimonies will not be given to the United States, the radio added. According to the economics and planning minister cited by IDF radio, if no arrangement is found within a few days, the cabinet must initiate the establishment of a legal inquiry commission on the affair.

Relations With USSR — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has "guaranteed" that Israeli conditions of renewed diplomatic ties for including the USSR in an international conference on the Middle East "will be no obstacle," *Ha'aretz* contended.

PLO Affairs

A Fatah statement broadcast by Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio 22 March confirmed that the 18th PNC will begin in Algeria 20 April and called on all Palestinian factions to participate in a preparatory meeting scheduled for 10 April. It expressed Fatah's support for submitting a declaration to the PNC on the cancellation of the agreement with Jordan and reaffirmed the movement's belief in armed struggle. The Fatah statement, which was also carried by Tripoli radio, praised Libyan leader Col al-Qadhdhafi's "pan-Arab" role and his support for Palestinian unity.

DFLP leader Nayif Hawatimah stated earlier after meeting with PNSF officials in Libya that there is now "no pretext for anyone to remain outside the framework of Palestinian unity," according to Radio Monte Carlo. Hawatimah noted that proposals for the abrogation of the Amman agreement and for the formation of a collective PLO leadership will be considered at the 10 April preparatory meeting in Algiers. The Kuwaiti paper *Al-Siyasah* reported that Fatah leaders have agreed to the formation of a collective PLO leadership, a move which is aimed at curtailing Yasir 'Arafat's powers as chairman of the executive committee and commander in chief of Palestinian forces.

PDRY-YAR

PDRY President Abu Bakr al-'Attas affirmed he is ready to resume reconciliation talks with the YAR "at any time and in any place," AFP reported citing the UAE paper *Al-Ittihad*.

Djibouti Arrests

A Tunisian who admits responsibility for the 18 March bomb explosion in a Djibouti cafe has disclosed that he was recruited in Damascus, the Djibouti president announced in remarks reported by Paris radio. The Tunisian, who was arrested along with a Kuwaiti, said he belongs to the "troops of the revolutionaries and resistance fighters."

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 055 *23 March 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PNC Reportedly To Convene in Algiers 20 April *[Sanaa VOP]* .... A 1
Fatah Said To Agree on 'Collective' Leadership *[Kuwait AL-SIYASAH 20 Mar]* .... A 1
Hawatimah on 'Working Paper' for Algiers Meeting *[Monte Carlo]* .... A 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Palestinian Leaders *[Tripoli]* .... A 2
Fatah Statement Thanks Libya for 'Pan-Arab Role' *[Sanaa VOP]* .... A 2
PLO's Khalaf on Amman Agreement, EC Statement *[Kuwait AL-SIYASAH 20 Mar]* .... A 2
Jordanian-Palestinian Meeting Planned for Cairo *[WAKH]* .... A 2
George Habash, Milhim on Political Settlement *[Kuwait AL-QABAS 18 Mar]* .... A 3
REUTER Version of 'Arafat Talk 'Incorrect' *[Voice of PLO]* .... A 6
U.S. Reportedly 'Might' Begin Dialogue With PLO *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 23 Mar]* .... A 7
Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad 22 March *[INA]* .... A 7

ARABIAN PENINSULA

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

Omani Official Interviewed on Protecting Shipping *[Kuwait AL-MAJALIS 21 Mar]* .... C 1
Kuwaiti Foreign Minister on Gulf Navigation *[KUNA]* .... C 1

BAHRAIN

Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy Arrives in Manama 21 March .... C 2
    Meets With Amir .... C 2

KUWAIT

Paper Warns U.S. About 'Blind' Support for Israel *[AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM 20 Mar]* .... C 2

OMAN

France's Raimond Meets Foreign Ministry Officials .... C 3
Oil Minister on Prices, New Oil Fields .... C 3

PDRY

Al-Bid Addresses Mass Organizations Meeting .... C 3
Paper Notes Soviet Discovery of Large Oil Field *[Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD 23 Mar]* .... C 4

SAUDI ARABIA

Libyan Envoy Ends Visit, Leaves Jeddah 21 March .... C 4
Military Officials Welcome French Chief of Staff .... C 4
    Defense Minister Meets Official .... C 4

UAE

PDRY President Arrives 21 March, Makes Statement *[WAKH]* .... C 4
    To Discuss Bilateral Issues *[AL-ITTIHAD 21 Mar]* .... C 4
    Official Talks Begin *[WAKH]* .... C 5
    Gives News Conference *[WAKH]* .... C 5

    Zayid Receives Message From Bangladesh President .... C 5

YAR

    Development Minister on Oil, Economic Plans *[Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR 20 Mar]* .... C 6

EGYPT

Mubarak Reportedly To Visit USSR Later 'This Year' *[VOL]* .... D 1
Jordan's King Husayn Arrives in Cairo 22 March .... D 1
    Official Talks Begin *[Amman]* .... D 1
    Views Conference, Gulf War .... D 1
Discusses Missiles in Hormuz *[Monte Carlo]* .... D 1
    Departs Cairo 22 Mar .... D 2
Libyan, Syrian Nationals Request Political Asylum .... D 2
Ghali Meets With Soviet Delegation 22 March .... D 2
Awqaf Minister Promises Aid to Soviet Muslims .... D 2
AL-AKHBAR Criticizes Soviet Stand on Gulf War *[22 Mar]* .... D 2
CSSR Official Arrives on 3-Day Visit .... D 3
'Source' on Algerian President's Remarks .... D 3
Mubarak Receives UAE Oil Minister, Envoy .... D 3
    Minister on Meeting .... D 3
    Departs 21 March .... D 3
Senegalese Envoy Concludes Visit, Departs 21 Mar .... D 3
Mubarak Receives Islamic Radios Council Members .... D 3
Alexandrians Protest Israeli Consulate Plans *[AL-AHRAR 16 Mar]* .... D 4
AL-SH'AB Editor Sees Israeli Role in Debt Issue *[17 Mar]* .... D 4
Economy Under Secretary Cited on FRG Loans .... D 5
30 Fundamentalists Held in Fighting in Sawhaj .... D 5
2 NPUG Members Detained on Sedition Charges .... D 6

IRAQ

Saddam Message on Foiling Iranian Intentions .... E 1
Communiques, Reports Detail 19-23 March Fighting .... E 2
    Iranian Drone Downed .... E 2
    20-21 Mar Fighting Detailed .... E 3
    Oil Field, Maritime Target Hit .... E 3
    Nowruz Oil Field Hit .... E 4
    Cyrus Oil Field Hit .... E 4

JORDAN

King Husayn Makes Statement on Return From Egypt .... F 1
Senate President Meets USSR Institute Delegation .... F 1
Official Meets British Foreign Office Delegation .... F 2
AL-DUSTUR Criticizes Reagan's News Conference *[21 Mar]* .... F 2

LEBANON

Radio Claims Syrians To Release Some Hostages *[RFL]* .... G 1
Amal Declares Release of Saudi National .... G 1
Israel Raids Sidon Areas; Casualties Reported .... G 1
Israel Continues To Stop Ships at Sidon, Tyre *[Voice of the People]* .... G 1
Israeli Casualties in Resistance Attack in South .... G 1
Israel Reportedly Brings in Reinforcements .... G 1
Israeli Forces Ambush Resistance Patrol .... G 1
5 Hizballah Gunmen Injured in Clash With Israelis *[VOL]* .... G 2
Israelis Direct Israeli Artillery on Villages *[RFL]* .... G 2
UNIFIL Commander Terms Security Strip 'Obstacle' *[Voice of the Mountain]* .... G 2
Presidential Delegation Returns From Damascus .... G 2

Birri on Junblatt's Remarks, Camps War *[RFL]* ..... G 2
    Junblatt Responds to Remarks *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
    Amal Answers Junblatt Remarks *[VOL]* ..... G 3
Junblatt Departs for Damascus Talks 22 March *[VONR]* ..... G 3
    Previews Talks in Damascus *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 3
Junblatt Offers To Close Al-Jiyah, Khaldah Ports *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 3
Karami Urges Al-Jumayyil To Work for Solution ..... G 4
Syrians Arrest 5 PSP Members After Rocket Attack *[VOL]* ..... G 4
Lebanese Front Delegation Briefs Patriarch Sfayr *[VOL]* ..... G 4
Tehran Reports Beirut Friday Prayer Ceremonies ..... G 4

SYRIA

Talks With Lebanon Resume 20 March in Damascus *[Monte Carlo]* ..... H 1
    'Positive' Results Reached *[Monte Carlo]* ..... H 1
    Sources Say Results 'Exaggerated' *[Monte Carlo]* ..... H 1
Radio on U.S. View of International Conference ..... H 2
Al-Shar' Receives Support for Terrorism Meeting ..... H 2

ISRAEL

Gorbachev Links Renewed Relations to Conference *[HA'ARETZ 22 Mar]* ..... I 1
    USSR 'Piling Obstacles' ..... I 1
    Shamir Office Communique Issued *[GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE 11 Mar]* ..... I 1
Soviets Initiate Meeting on Jewish Immigration ..... I 3
Soviet Advisers Moved to Beirut From Syria *['AL HAMISHMAR 20 Mar]* ..... I 3
Shamir Briefs Cabinet on Pollard Affair Probe ..... I 3
Radio on 'Some Delay' in Committee Work ..... I 3
Peres, Rabin Deny Durenberger IDF Spy Charge *[THE JERUSALEM POST 22 Mar]* ..... I 4
Attorney Liba'i, Clients Respond to Shamir Letter ..... I 4
Press Calls for Resignations, Investigation ..... I 4
Nimrodi Prepared To Testify on Iran Arms Affair ..... I 4
'Secret' Report To Expose Lavi Errors *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT LESHABAT Supplement 20 Mar]* ..... I 5
Botha Claims U.S. Behind Decision on S. Africa ..... I 6
Air Force Hits 'Terrorist' Command Post Near Sidon ..... I 6
2 IDF Soldiers Wounded by Bomb in South Lebanon ..... I 6
2 'Terrorists' Killed by IDF in Security Zone ..... I 6

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Ibrahimi, Soviet Counterpart Exchange Greetings ..... Q 1
Netherlands Foreign Minister Holds Talks ..... Q 1
    Air Transport Agreement Signed ..... Q 1
Messaadia Makes 'Technical' Stopover in Spain *[cross-reference]* ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Terrorism Conference ..... Q 1
    Reportedly 'Cut Off' in Link Up *[AFP]* ..... Q 3
JANA Condemns U.S. Official's Terrorism Statement ..... Q 3

MOROCCO

King Hassan II Holds Talks With King Fahd ..... Q 4
Prime Minister Condemns Libyan 'Interference' ..... Q 4
Al-Qadhdhafi, Chad's Habre To Meet 'Soon' ..... Q 5
    Official Denies Meeting Planned ..... Q 5

EAST AFRICA

DJIBOUTI

- Tunisian, Kuwaiti Arrested in Bombing Connection *[Paris]* .... R 1
  - Tunisian 'Recruited' in Damascus *[Paris]* .... R 1
  - Political Exile Denies Involvement *[Paris]* .... R 1

ETHIOPIA

- Ambassador to Japan Resigns in Policy Protest *[Voice of Broad Masses]* .... R 1
- Joint EPLF-ELF Congress Held 12-19 March *[Voice of Broad Masses]* .... R 1
  - 'Final Proclamation' Issued *[Voice of Broad Masses]* .... R 2
- Soldiers Said Killed, Ammunition Dump Destroyed *[Voice of Broad Masses]* .... R 3
- Eritrean Forces Kill 57 'Enemy Soldiers' 16 Mar *[Voice of Broad Masses]* .... R 3
- Eritrean Radio Claims 209 Ethiopian Troops Killed *[Voice of Broad Masses]* .... R 3

KENYA

- Government Offers To Host Sudanese Peace Talks .... R 3

UGANDA

- Former Minister Said Killed by Museveni Troops *[SUNDAY STANDARD 22 Mar]* .... R 3

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

- Fighting Continues in North 20-22 March .... S 1
  - FANT: Counterattack Thwarted .... S 1
- FANT Communique Reports Tally of 20 Mar Fighting .... S 1
- Libyans Bombs Fada, Yarda .... S 1
  - 5 Libyans Killed at Yarda *[AFP]* .... S 1
  - 61 Libyans Killed Near Zouar .... S 1
  - FANT: Ouadi Doum Falls .... S 2
  - Victory Shots Banned .... S 2
  - Paris Confirms Libyan Defeat .... S 2
  - GUNT: Americans in Combat *[Bardai]* .... S 2
  - GUNT on Ouadi Doum Battle *[JANA]* .... S 2
  - GUNT Claims Major Victory *[Bardai]* .... S 3
  - GUNT Reports Action in South *[JANA]* .... S 3

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

- Kerekou Returns From Ivory Coast, Hits Agitators .... T 1

GHANA

- Government Orders Kumasi University Closed .... T 1
  - Commentary Supports Closure .... T 1
- Cultural Agreement Signed With Soviet Society .... T 2

GUINEA

- President Conte Departs for Kuwait 20 March .... T 2

LIBERIA

BBC Interviews Opposition Leader on Doe Regime .... T 2

MALI

Prime Minister Receives Iranian Delegation .... T 3
    President Receives Envoy .... T 3
3 Spanish Reporters Said To Face 23 Mar Expulsion *[BBC]* .... T 4

NIGERIA

Open-Air Religious Preaching Banned in Plateau .... T 4
Papers Support Babangida on Religious Unrest .... T 4
    THE MAIL Backs President .... T 4
Nigeria To Chair 'Medium Power' Concept Group .... T 4
Research Headquarters Agreement Signed With OAU .... T 4

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Official Urges 'Good Organization' in Churches .... U 1
Dos Santos Appoints New Communications Minister .... U 1
People's Assembly Names Commission Members .... U 1
UNITA Captures Town, Destroys Navigation Center *[Johannesburg]* .... U 1

BOTSWANA

Soviet Delegation Arrives for 2-Day Visit .... U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

Dos Santos Returns From Angola, Cape Verde Trips .... U 2
Culture Minister Returns From Portugal, UK .... U 2
    Comments on Talks in UK .... U 2
Famine Threatens Half of Tete Population .... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Warns Whites Against Isolation .... U 2
    Criticizes Right-Wing Whites *[Umtata]* .... U 2
Pik Botha: U.S. 'Pressure' Causes Israeli Action .... U 3
    Israeli Ambassador Briefs Tutu *[Tel Aviv MA'ARIV 20 Mar]* .... U 3
Botha Announces New Ambassador to France .... U 3
Police Deny Further Deaths in KwaMashu .... U 3
    Police Arrest 6 Blacks .... U 3
Home Affairs Director Explains ID Demands .... U 3
Tutu, ANC Agree To Disagree on Tactics *[Umtata]* .... U 4
    Downplays Worrall Resignation *[Umtata]* .... U 4
    Holds 'Friendly' Talks With ANC .... U 4
P.W. Botha Announces May Workers Holiday .... U 5
Advertisement Gives Reasons to Vote for PFP *[SUNDAY TIMES 22 Mar]* .... U 5
Winnie Mandela Repaid 62,000 Rand on ANC Ad Loan .... U 5
WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer' *[20-26 Mar]* .... U 6
Information Bureau Issues 20 Mar Unrest Report .... U 7
    21 Mar Unrest Report .... U 7
    22 Mar Unrest Report .... U 7
Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems .... U 8
    21 Mar Press Review .... U 8

22 Mar Press Review .... U 9
23 Mar Press Review .... U 10

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Denies 'Serious Political Crisis' .... U 12
Nurse Strike Said 'Politically Motivated' .... U 12
'Explosive' Situation Results *[Johannesburg]* .... U 13
Strike Reportedly Settled *[Johannesburg]* .... U 13
President Kaunda, Mocumbi Speak to Socialists *[Maputo]* .... U 13
USSR's Gilashvili Pledges Support on Namibia, RSA .... U 13

ZIMBABWE

Nicaragua's D'escoto Arrives on 3-day Visit .... U 13
Ministers Return From 'Successful' USSR Visit .... U 13
Maputo 'As Important' As Beira Corridor .... U 14
Mugabe Departs To Attend Pakistan Celebrations .... U 14
Further Coverage of Visit *[cross-reference]* .... U 14

PNC Reportedly To Convene in Algiers 20 April

JN201753 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] It is now certain the PNC will hold its 18th session in Algiers on 20 April. The PLO Executive Committee today began issuing invitations to the 18th session of the PNC, which will be held in Algiers on 20 April in accordance with the workings of the PNC that stipulate that the new session must be announced and invitations issued a month prior to the set date of convocation.

The PNC will hold a preparatory meeting in Algiers on 10 April to be attended by the Palestinian factions to reinforce comprehensive national dialogue among the five Palestinian factions that agreed to hold the new PNC session on 20 April.

Fatah Said To Agree on 'Collective' Leadership

JN221737 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 20 Mar 87
pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman — The Fatah leaders have agreed to form a collective PLO leadership, in cooperation with the PLO chairman, to supervise the day-to-day affairs of the PLO. This move, which is meant to curtail the powers of the PLO Executive Committee chairman and the commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, is part of a comprehensive agreement reached last Saturday in a meeting among the Fatah movement, DFLP, and the Palestinian Communist Party chaired by Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis.

Al-Siyasah, which is exclusively publishing this agreement, which has been a secret so far, has confirmed that Salah Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, has arrived in Baghdad to acquaint the Iraqi leadership with the details of the agreement with the objective of creating an Arab atmosphere that will guarantee the success of the expanded Palestinian meeting due to begin in Algiers on 10 April and last until 20 April, the day of the PNC meeting.

At the same time, while Abu Iyad is briefing the Iraqi leadership on the details of the agreement among the three factions, another meeting is currently being held in Tripoli, Libya, among Fatah, the PFLP delegation led by Dr George Habash himself, and the DFLP delegation led by Nayif Hawatimah. Efforts are also being made to convince the PNSF to attend the 10 April meeting.

Well-informed sources stressed to *Al-Siyasah* that last Saturday's agreement covered the political and organizational program, the procedural steps to convene the PNC, and details of the participation of forces and personalities in the new PLO Executive Committee. The Tunis agreement embodies the Prague statement and the Aden organizational agreement regarding the curtailment of the powers of the PLO Executive Committee chairman and the formation of a collective leadership to supervise daily PLO affairs between PLO Executive Committee sessions, thus creating an operations room to entrench the collective leadership.

On the organizational level, the Tunis meeting discussed the possibility of giving more powers to the PLO Central Council, which usually meets between PNC sessions. The PNC, however, will be held with its present members after seven new member have been added to it. The seven new seats will be given to the Palestinian Communist Party, which is currently represented by one member, and to the DFLP in recognition of its important role in unifying Palestinian ranks.

Regarding the international conference, it has been agreed that the PLO should have independent representation at this conference. The meeting of a preparatory committee consisting of the five permament UN Security Council member states was also approved, and if a sixth member is to be added, then it should be the PLO.

Al-Siyasah has learned that the PNC meeting will be proceded by the following steps: The Tunis agreement shall be submitted to the PLO Executive Committee, which occurred last Monday when the PLO Executive Committee decided to approve this agreement, which was published only by *Al-Siyasah*. After this approval, Algeria's approval of the date and procedures shall be obtained. The agreement shall also be submitted to the PFLP, and this is now taking place in Libya. Subsequently, the PFLP and the PNSF shall be invited to a comprehensive dialogue in Algiers on 10 April that will last until 20 April, the day the PNC meets.

For his part, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] has acquainted the USSR with the Tunis agreement, and the USSR has actually expressed support for it.

Concluding, the sources said the PFLP stand, which is still a rejectionist stand, will be a sensitive one in any case because it will reflect on the PFLP's internal leadership, especialy because Dr George Habash is still pursuing a middle-of-the-road policy whose resistance to pressures cannot be estimated.

Meanwhile, Abu al-Za'im ['Atallah 'Atallah], a Fatah dissident, has threatend to convene an alternative PNC soon.

Hawatimah on 'Working Paper' for Algiers Meeting

JN201839 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] The expanded Palestinian meeting will be held in Algiers on 10 April now that the abrogation of the Amman Agreement has become certain, DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah announced. Nayif Hawatimah also confirmed the PNC will convene prior to Ramadan, that is, before the end of April.

Hawatimah's statement was made at the end of the Tripoli meeting attended by the DFLP secretary general and leaders of the Palestinian factions belonging to the PNSF, which is opposed to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat. These leaders are PNSF leader Khalid al-Fahum; PFLP Secretary General George Habash; PFLP-General Command Secretary General Jibril; Popular Struggle Front Secretary General Samir Ghawshah; Tal'at Ya'qub, of the Palestine Liberation Front; and 'Atif Abu Bakr and Jamil Fahmi of Fatah-the Revolutionary Council, Abu Nidal's organization.

Nayif Hawatimah asserted that the working paper prepared for the Algiers meeting includes a decision on abrogating the Amman Agreement and on forming a collective PLO leadership. The DFLP secretary general said there is now no pretext for anyone to remain outside the framework of Palestinian unity.

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets With Palestinian Leaders

LD211920 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today met with the secretaries of the Palestinian revolution's factions. This meeting was part of the series of meetings between the brother leader of the revolution and the factions of the Palestinian revolution within the framework of the pan-Arab initiative. This initiative was declared in his significant speech before the General People's Congress at its 12th ordinary session at Al-Shara al-Ula City — Sabha — on the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of the people's authority and the birth of the first Jamahiriyah in history, to escalate the armed struggle of the Palestinian revolution.

Fatah Statement Thanks Libya for 'Pan-Arab Role'

JN221753 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 22 Mar 87

["Text" of a statement by the Fatah Movement's official spokesman in Tunis on 21 March 1987]

[Text] The Fatah Movement greets and highly appreciates the pan-Arab role being played by the Libyan Jamahiriyah and its leader, Brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, to safeguard and bolster the unity of the Palestinian revolution factions within the framework of the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative [words indistinct] and to bolster the factions' unity and to hold a PNC session that sincerely and honestly expresses the pan-Arab course being embodied in our Arab arena by the Jamahiriyah and its leader. The Fatah Movement also greets the genuine pan-Arab stands adopted by the Libyan Jamahiriyah in support of our steadfast people in the occupied territory and in the besieged Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

These stands today constitute major support for our steadfast masses in Shatila, Burj al-Barajinah, and Al-Rashidiyah. They also constitute strong backing for the revolution and the fighting rifle to continue the armed struggle to liberate Palestine from the Zionist usurpation.

While firmly confronting the proposed suspect plans, we reassert our categorical rejection of these capitulationist imperialist-Zionist plans and schemes, including UN Security Council Resolution 242 because it deals with our national cause as a refugee issue and not as the cause of a militant people who have the right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent state.

The Palestinian national liberation movement, Fatah, affirms that continuing struggle in all its forms, especially armed struggle, is the way to regain our people's sacred rights. While announcing its commitment to the political and organizational agreement reached by the five Palestinian factions, including the declaration to be presented at the PNC on the cancellation of the Amman Agreement, the Fatah Movement emphasizes that the PNC's 18th session will be held in Algeria on 20 April. Fatah calls on the factions that have not joined this agreement to participate in the comprehensive national dialogue that will be held on 10 April to pave the way for the PNC session.

PLO's Khalaf on Amman Agreement, EC Statement

JN221533 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 20 Mar 87 p 20

[Text] Abu Dhabi, (KUNA) — Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Palestinian Fatah Movement, has said Fatah is ready to cancel the Amman Agreement at any future PNC session.

In a statement published in the newspaper *Al-Ittihad Al-Usbu'i* yesterday, Abu Iyad added: The solution proposed by the PLO is neither extremist nor wasteful. The national solution says our people want their right to self-determination as well as their right to a Palestinian state and that the PLO, their legitimate representative, is the one that will hold any talks on a future settlement.

Abu Iyad pointed out that the EC statement on the international conference is considered a step beyond the Venice Declaration because it contains three positive points: The first mentions an international conference to be attended by the USSR, and this is a new position by the European states; the second point is that the European states said in their statement that the conference must be based on the Venice Declaration, which recognizes the Palestinian people's right to self-determination; and the third point is the EC statement's reference to the participation of the parties concerned, not the states concerned, in the conference. Had the statement said the states concerned, this would have meant the PLO's exclusion from the conference.

Abu Iyad said: Syria should not have to enter Lebanon to secure a seat in the international conference because whether we agree with it or not, Syria has to attend the conference because its territory is occupied.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian leadership source has affirmed that the PLO has the right to choose the pesons who will represent it at any international conference for peace in the Middle East. The source said in a statement published in *Al-Ittihad* yesterday that the pesons who will be selected must be active members of the PLO and well known to all sides, including Israel and the United States. He explained that the organization should either nominate its representatives to any peaceful negotiations within the international conference, or attend as a member within an Arab delegation in these negotiations.

Jordanian-Palestinian Meeting Planned for Cairo

JN221426 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1415 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (WAKH) — An informed Palestinian source has told a WAKH correspondent in Cairo that a Palestinian delegation comprising Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, and Hani al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser, will meet with the Jordanian leaders accompanying His Majesty King Husayn on the sidelines of the current Egyptian-Jordanian summit in Cairo. Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, has been in Cairo over the past 2 days. Hani al-Hasan, Yasir 'Arafat's adviser, arrived in Cairo today.

George Habash, Milhim on Political Settlement

JN192123 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 18 Mar 87 p 17

["Strategic Dialogue" with PFLP Secretary General George Habash, and Muhammad Milhim, PLO Executive Committee member, by Tawfiq Abu Bakr; place, date not given]

[Text][Abu Bakr] The issue of a political settlement is one of the major issues in the Palestinian arena. Do you see any real possibility for a settlement and on what conditions? Is it harmful or useful to constantly talk about an imminent settlement so our people will continue to have a cause for optimism or would that make them complacent and wait for relief coming from abroad? Is time in our favor, or is the land being lost and Judaized with the passing of time? What is your view on all such issues stemming from the main issue, that of a political settlement?

[Habash] Before embarking on a direct answer to the many and complex questions raised, I would like to deal with some of the issues connected with concepts and with the scientific method of research and analysis. We often use the term the concept of a settlement to express the detailed legal procedures for the negotiations and arrangements that culminate with specific solutions and agreements. Often questions are asked, such as is a settlement possible, deferred, unachievable, or impossible. What is meant of course is a settlement according to the said concept, that is according to specific steps, procedures, contacts, plans, and agreements.

The concept of a settlement in that sense reflects only those aspects which, despite their great importance, are only a diplomatic-legal expression of the economic, social, cultural, psychological, and historical process that has been going on for many years. The concept of a settlement is perceived in this sense almost throughout the Arab homeland with few exceptions, exceptions that prove the rule.

The settlement to which I want to draw attention, and which regrettably appears to be absent or almost absent from our Arab press and from the product of our thinkers, is represented by those transformations in the structure of contemporary Arab societies and those political, economic, and social trends that govern the course of modern Arab states and give them their essential structural character.

A settlement in such a sense means taming the Arab mind in general and making it ready to accept the idea of coexistence with and recognition of the Zionist entity and, indeed, forging an alliance with it if possible. That is what Al-Sadat did when he raised the issue of breaking the psychological barrier between the Arab nation and the Zionist entity.

In other words, a settlement in the rational sense of the word is the downward path pursued by the traditional and the new Arab bourgeoisie. The pursuit of such a path had repercussions on, above all, the patterns of economic and social life in Arab countries and resulted in the growth of parasitical, bureaucratic layers and sectors in society that believe their salvation, development, and future lies in being completely tied to the capitalist West. They believe their future is secured by suppressing democratic freedoms, expropriating and subjugating the will of the masses, killing the masses' spirit of affiliation and nationalism, and pushing them toward regionalism and abhorrent sectarianism.

World imperialism, neo-colonialism, and Israel have sought to create an Arab socioeconomic structure that serves their policies and plans in the region and which is tied to them, a structure whose only function is to bring about further economic and, consequently, political subservience to the West. One can say many successes were achieved in that regard.

That is the settlement that is now taking place, incessantly, in the Arab arena. Perhaps the emergence of oil in the 1970's as a mighty economic power pushed Arab societies toward such a settlement.

In this sense we can say that settlement as a structural, historic, economic, and social concept is taking place in the Arab homeland. However, it is not linked to this or that agreement or this or that decision, but to the mechanism of class, national, and pan-Arab struggle in the region. I say it is a structural and historic settlement, and I will later distinguish between this form of settlement and the concept of settlement. I wanted to begin my statement with this lengthy explanation of settlement as a legal and political concept. Settlement as steps and procedures ends with negotiations, solutions, and specific agreements. In this sense I stress that a national settlement, which includes national independence for our people and revolution and an independent state under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, does not exist at this political stage. Why do we say this? Why do we stress that the political stage now does not include a national settlement that guarantees our people's right to an independent state under the PLO? An answer to this question is based on three points:

First, the international situation is not ripe for a national solution to the Palestine question. This is not because the balance of power is not in favor of socialism — this is a fact of the age — primarily because Reagan's administration came to the White House with a universally hostile program. This program aims to destroy the achievements of the socialist camp and the world national liberation movements. Therefore, this administration refuses to recognize the current balance of power. The U.S. hostility, based on the great changes in the U.S. economy that favor the military-industrial complex, seeks to destroy all the peoples' achievements and their liberation movements, and it finds in the Middle East a fertile field. It is encouraged by the fact that it has scored some important achievements on this front after it had failed in Southeast Asia, Latin America, and elsewhere. These achievements would not have taken place if the Arab situation had not been weak.

Reagan's administration has ended the increasing victories of the peoples who were struggling for their liberation and progress in the seventies. We see that it is adopting a certain course to exacerbate the international situation, reinforce the arms race, and militarize space, not to mention its intensified and continuous efforts to prevent the Arab liberation movements from achieving new victories. This makes us believe that Washington would be the most difficult obstacle to a national settlement that guarantees our Palestinian people's minimum legitimate national rights.

Second, the weak Arab situation encourages the hostility of the U.S. Administration and the Zionist enemy. The enemy's achievements, foremost among them Camp David, are being proposed as acceptable by other Arab sides, to become an example of a humiliating peace between the capitulationist regimes and the Zionist entity. We hope that this is all. However, the ordeal gets worse when we see the impasse experienced by the Arab national liberation movement, with its official and popular parts, regimes, organizations, and forces. This impasse prevents the collapse of the treasonous and capitulatory course in the Arab arena. Moreover, an effective national alternative that can influence the course of developments in the region does not exist. In short, we can say that the Arab situation is not strong enough to complete a national settlement to guarantee our people's legitimate and inalienable rights under the PLO. Moreover, the majority of the Arab regimes are involved in the plans being hatched against our people, revolution, and cause.

Third, while many Arab regimes are rushing to Washington and Tel Aviv and capitulating to the U.S.-Zionist conditions, the Zionist enemy is becoming more intransigent toward the conditions for a settlement. There are no elements pushing Israel to withdraw from the occupied territory, let alone acknowledge the Palestinian people's rights and recognize their sole legitimate representative.

There is not one single reason making Israel abandon its gains from the continued occupation, not to mention its expansionist designs on all the occupied Arab territories in general and the Palestinian land in particular, designs that are nurtured by political, security, ideological, and other considerations, as well as by the enemy's huge material gain from its continued occupation of the Arab territories. More than half the Arab labor force works for the Zionist economy, and the West Bank is the second largest exporter of Israeli goods. This alone shows the importance of the enemy's gains from its continued occupation of the Arab territories, and this alone convinces us that Israel will not withdraw from the occupied territories unless it is forced to do so under the canopy of a new balance of power in the region.

An accurate study of the political configuration within Israel in terms of parties, parliament, trade unions, and public opinion shows that this society is not yet ready to make a decision on withdrawal from the occupied territories and is not yet prepared to pay the price for such a decision. This decision will not be a voluntary one, and if not imposed, one cannot speak about a just peace or an incremental national settlement.

A scientific analysis, and not pessimism, confirms that this national settlement cannot be attained without an arduous and bitter struggle to create the required change in the balance of power between the Arabs and the Zionists in favor of the Arab masses and the Palestinian people to enable them to wrest their rights and score a victory.

It is our national and pan-Arab duty to explain these facts to our people as clearly as possible and not to content ourselves with raising false and misleading hopes. Either we do our best to attain a settlement that will secure our people's national and legitimate rights, and then we must say that there is no hope for such a settlement at present and that it needs many years of arduous struggle, or we pant after any settlement that will not completely fulfill our rights. If we opt for the latter, we will not be serving our people. We will be giving the enemy an excuse to damage and ignore our people's national rights in the same manner that the Camp David accords ignored the rights of the Egyptian and Palestinian people and those of the entire Arab nation.

Some may say: If the scope of the national settlement is so limited, why then all the differences in the Arab and Palestinian arenas and why all this fabricated hue and cry against the settlement course, capitulation, the rightwing deviationists, and against all the other epithets ascribed to those who proceed on the capitulatory U.S. course?

For our part, we reply to such questions by going back to two basic facts that we cannot ignore:

The first is that many Arab and Palestinian parties no longer abide by the condition that the settlement must be a national settlement in the true sense of the word. They are no longer committed to the demands for an independent Palestinian state under the PLO. These parties, or at least some of them, have expressed their willingness to accept solutions that cannot be considered national solutions. Arab quarters have agreed, while others are on their way to agreeing, to plans and solutions that can be described as nothing other than national treason.

Here I would like to stress that such a settlement, which responds in some measure to the U.S.-Zionist enemy conditions and which is based on confiscating our legitimate rights, remains possible and likely. Its chances increase whenever the Arab situation further deteriorates and new tendencies to surrender emerge.

The second fact that should not be ignored is that there should be a distinction between a political settlement and a settlement course that has spread widely in the Palestinian and Arab arenas — a course whose advocates search for any solution and, therefore, try to adapt themselves continuously to the enemy conditions, but gradually and in varying degrees.

[Al-Shariqah *Al-Khalij* in Arabic on 18 March publishes the same "Strategic Dialogue" with Habash and Milhim on pages 13 and 17, but adds the following at this point: "We in the Palestinian arena have suffered from the dangers of this course and from the concessions made by its symbols and leaders in the name of the PLO. Perhaps the latest and most serious of these major concessions was the 11 February 1985 Jordanian- Palestinian agreement in which the Palestinian side expressed its readiness to make two basic and serious concessions: the first on the program of repatriation, self-determination, and establishment of an independent state in favor of the program of a confederation with Jordan and the second on the soleness of Palestinian representation in favor of partnership also with Jordan."]

Israel rejected these concessions because they were insufficient and demanded larger and more serious concessions. Therefore, joint coordination was halted and the horizons of a settlement were clouded over despite the concessions contained in the Amman Agreement. This reveals the essence of the only possible solution under the present balance of power (Camp David).

As bets on a settlement reached a deadlock, some voices from the Palestinian leadership and elsewhere were heard calling for the need to distinguish between a political settlement and a political movement. They also called for a political movement, claiming that this leadership had no illusions about the prospects for a political solution.

We have always heard such ideas, but following King Husayn's decision to suspend coordination with the PLO's leadership, these voices became louder, reiterating falsehoods to cover up the abject failure of these policies and bets. We distinguish between a political settlement and a political movement. We have talked about the political settlement, its possibilities, and the conditions for considering it a national settlement. As for the political movement, we demand it on the largest possible scale and on all official and popular Arab and international levels, but on the condition of adherence to the national program, the program of repatriation, national independence, and establishment of an independent state, as well as adherence to the national tool: the PLO as our people's sole legitimate representative.

This is the condition that should be available. As you know, this is not our decision in the PFLP alone, but a unanimous national Palestinian decision adopted in our legitimate Palestinian councils.

[*Al-Khalij* adds at this point: "We distinguish between settlement and movement, but the question is whether the others have distinguished between a political settlement and a political movement, and whether their actions really stemmed from a profound realization, unshared by others, about the importance of the political movement without being obsessed by illusions about a settlement and its prospects. Did they not have illusions about the possibility of a settlement and the imminent attainment of it when they signed the 11 February agreement, when they began their indirect negotiations with Murphy, and when they called for an Arab summit in Casablanca? Did more than one official and intellectual among them not express these intentions?"] Why were they then faced with all these objections on the international, Arab, and national Palestinian level?

They went too far in their old but renewed illusions, from which they have not yet departed. Some heads are still stuffed with them, and they still occupy a place in several other heads. Moreover, several of these circles are still ready to make successive concessions, and here lies the danger. Is their objective behind this not maintaining friendly relations with Amman and Cairo in the hope of resuming the political settlement efforts and in the hope of convincing Washington of the need to encircle their role and position in these efforts?

Undoubtedly differentiating between settlement and movement is a fundamental issue that must be addressed to those who view the two as being the same thing. We appreciate the seriousness of the obstacles to a settlement. Equally we appreciate the hazards inherent in the thinking of advocates of a settlement in the Palestinian arena who argue that movement is important or that in the absence of a settlement movement is a necessity. The danger of this approach lies in the devastating impact it carries for intra-Palestinian relations, Palestinian national unity, Palestinian-Arab relations, Palestinian international relations, and the standing of the PLO. This is why we have stood against this approach, why we will continue to do so, and why we warn about its dangers. I would like to conclude my answer by stressing two points raised by your question: first — apprehension that Palestinian masses, more particularly those in the occupied land, will despair. In fairness to these struggling masses, I must reject this analysis; the masses have never been and will never be defeatists; they will never despair and will never chase mirage settlements.

Our masses, which have stood the test of unceasing struggle over the years, have not wearied and will never weary of many more years of struggle. They provide concrete evidence of this fact by ingenious acts of struggle and militancy every day; they hold more tenaciously to their cause and full rights than they have at any time in the past. Have this revolution and its masses a choice other than perseverance, continuing struggle, and patience? Will the 11 February accord, the American solution, and the Camp David agreements deliver our people from their suffering? I do not want an answer to my question: It has been supplied by our people in the cities, villages, and camps of the occupied territories — stones and knives in the chests of the occupation troops. The answer has been supplied by the heroes of Al-Rashidiyah, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah — a determined fight in self-defense and on behalf of the revolution and the national rights of the Palestinian people. Second — the plan to Judaize the land and the time factor that does not favor us. To begin with, this is not the first time that this issue has been raised. It was brought up as a scarecrow in a desperate attempt to promote the "land in exchange for peace" slogan, which is what the defeatist Resolution 242 is all about.

Those who have advanced such arguments and triggered such fears want us to sign our surrender document. Is this the way to go about saving one's land? Has capitulation ever led to the recovery of occupied land?

It is now 20 years since UN Security Council Resolution 242 was accepted by some Arabs. During 7 years of this period, there was no Arab recognition of the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and the party responsible for Palestinian land and the entire Palestinian destiny. Throughout these 20 years, certain parties have made every effort to get the resolution enforced and Israel to withdraw from some occupied Arab lands rather than all the occupied Arab lands. What has the result been? The answer is nothing.

Egypt is the largest Arab state, as well as the Arab nation's heart and its major power. Egypt has participated in all Arab-Israeli wars. This was the case before 1977. But Egypt accepted Camp David and its liquidatory, humiliating conditions; Egypt moved away from the conflict with the enemy to normalization and coexistence. What was the result? The Sinai was returned to Egypt with incomplete sovereignty under U.S. supervision. An Egyptian poet was right when he said "Sinai has returned, but Egypt has been lost."

Capitulation to the conditions of the enemies and adaptation to them are the shortest way to waste land, sovereignty, rights, and national dignity. They are not the way to save the land, the kinfolk, and the rights. We do not belittle our people's difficulties under occupation, as we are feeling the bitter taste of occupation. Likewise, we do not belittle the dangers of the Judaization and confiscation of land, as the whole homeland has been exposed to Judaization and occupation. We, however, believe that the way to confront these dangers and threats is not by responding to what is sought by those who pose such threats; that is, the imposition of capitulation on us. The way to confront them is through hard, persistent struggle to liberate the land, both Judaized and non-Judaized land. Have not all the Palestinian lands under occupation since 1948 been Judaized? Does Judaization give the right to inherit and confiscate lands? Is Jerusalem, the capital of Palestine, not subjected to annexation and Judaization laws? Are the West Bank and Gaza Strip not planted with dozens of settlements established after the land was annexed and Judaized? Will we abandon our demands to regain this land? Will we yield to the Zionist scarecrow despite its cruelty and accept the capitulation our enemies seek?

This is our option and way to confront these dangers. If one has another way or option to save the land, safeguard the rights, and preserve the national dignity, then let him guide us to that way or option.

[Milhim] According to the existing balance of power, there is no actual possibility for a political settlement. Following the military campaign that resulted in our exodus from Lebanon, there has been an uninterrupted political campaign to achieve the first aim — that is, the removal of the PLO from the Middle East equation. One of the pillars of this political campaign, which has continued since the end of 1982, is the continuous deception of the Palestinian leadership and people that forthcoming political solutions are closer than many people believe. Rumors have been spread such as "the deal is ready" and "all preparations have been made."

The nature of the internal Palestinian situation and the Arab situation; their loss of the minimum degree of solidarity; the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war, which has polarized Arab ranks and which exhausts the fighting Arab forces; and the continuation of small wars in the Arab arena are all factors that make the possibility of a force for a just political settlement more remote than ever.

Political and armed actions are complementary actions, each of which has its role in the complex militant process. I, however, agree that talking about an imminent settlement without a material foundation actually leads to complacency and increases delusions. There is a practical difference between political movement as part of an integrated militant plan with clear objectives and a movement that only aims to search for any solution. I am one of those who believes that time will eventually be on our side no matter how contrary matters get at certain times and under some circumstances. Therefore, I am opposed to the talk about "the loss and Judaization of land." This land is Arab land and will not assume another identity. The phase of the Zionist invasion of our land is a phase that will pass and end just as other phases have ended. It may not necessarily end in our age but maybe in the age of our sons or our grandsons.

REUTER Version of 'Arafat Talk 'Incorrect'

JN201945 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1745 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] On 16 March, *Reuter* held an interview with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces. We were surprised to find that *Reuter* had deliberately published parts of this interview in an incorrect manner. These parts pertain to PLO representation in the international conference.

Naturally, several Arab and foreign newspapers hastened to repeat these parts in their incorrect form. To clarify and confirm and avoid confusion, we will now read the original, literal text of the interview that Reuter conducted with Brother Abu 'Ammar on 16 March:

Charles Beck: Is it possible to specify who will form the PLO delegation?

Abu 'Ammar: Undoubtedly the PLO. Yes, we will participate.

Beck: Is it your view they will not be from the PLO?

Abu 'Ammar: Who said that?

Beck: I am just asking to clarify things.

Abu 'Ammar: No Palestinian will participate except in my name because I am the PLO Executive Committee chairman.

Beck: Are there any secret contacts to find out who would be acceptable in the delegation?

Abu 'Ammar: It is my right to say this: If Britain is going to participate in the conference, do you have the right to ask who will participate? It is the British Government. When we say France will participate, then that means the participant would be the French Government. When we say the USSR will participate, then that means the Soviet Government will participate. When we say the Egyptians will participate, then that means their government will participate. When we say the Israelis will participate, then that means the Israeli Government will participate.

When we say the Palestinians will participate in the conference, then that means the PLO will participate. When we say it is a truly international conference under the auspices and supervision of the United Nations, and because it is so, then undoubtedly, the PLO will participate in this conference on behalf of the

Palestinian people, like the other sides that are represented by their governments. You must not forget the PLO is an observer member at the United Nations.

Beck: Therefore, they have to be from the PLO?

Abu 'Ammar: Undoubtedly.

U.S. Reportedly 'Might' Begin Dialogue With PLO

JN230909 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0800 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Informed Egyptian sources have said the United States might embark on a dialogue with the PLO during the coming days through an aide to Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs. The sources said, in the UAE paper *Al-Ittihad* published today, that the U.S. decision came after the recent State Department-sponsored meeting of U.S. ambassadors in the Middle East.

The sources said the U.S. move to hold a dialogue with the PLO, which is an important change in U.S. policy toward the PLO and the Palestinians, is based on a U.S. attempt to curtail the Soviet role in the region — a role that emerges clearly through the Soviet announcement of initiatives in the region and through their attempt to unite the various Palestinian factions.

The sources added that the U.S. step aims at giving momentum to the peace process in the region through the holding of a dialogue with the PLO to detract attention from the arms deal with Iran.

The Egyptian sources did not expect the U.S. decision to result in a constructive step simply by beginning the dialogue with the PLO. However, it is considered a positive decision in its content. This would be the beginning of other steps that might come in the interest of the Palestinian cause.

Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Baghdad 22 March

JN221224 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1023 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Baghdad today on a visit to Iraq. He was received by the director and members of the Arab Liberation Movements Bureau at the RCC and the director of the PLO office in Baghdad.

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

Omani Official Interviewed on Protecting Shipping

LD201034 Kuwait KUNA in English 0818 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Kuwait, March 20 (KUNA) — An Omani official has said Arab Gulf countries must not and cannot be entirely responsible for protecting freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf.

"It's the responsibility of the world community as stipulated in international laws," Shaykh Ibrahim al-Subhi, secretary general of Oman's Supreme Committee for Conferences, said in an interview to be published Saturday in Kuwaiti weekly magazine *Al-Majalis*.

Al-Subhi, who is also outgoing assistant GCC secretary general for political affairs, specified that the six countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council were responsible for protecting shipping in their territorial waters "and that's what they are now trying to secure."

Asked to comment on a statement by Sultan Qabus of Oman that the Gulf countries cannot defend themselves but would only absorb the first strike in the event of a Gulf war spillover, Al-Subhi said:

"The sultan's dictum was wise and there are proofs and evidences to support it". But the Omani official stressed that the Sultan meant that the Arab Gulf countries are unable to defend themselves at present not that they will remain so indefinitely.

The GCC countries are now trying to develop the capability to protect themselves and such potential would be a reality when the six countries complete execution of their joint defense strategy, according to the outgoing GCC official. Responding to a question, he ruled out the initiation of a sea lane off the GCC coasts as to be defended by the GCC countries. "The GCC states now want just to ensure that navigation in their territorial waters remain free and well protected," he said.

Al-Subhi's remarks coincided with confirmed press reports that Iran this month deployed ground-to-ground missiles near the Strait of Hormuz in a move widely expected to threaten shipping at the international sea lane.

Washington, reacting to the development, Thursday renewed a pledge to safeguard navigation in the strait.

Commenting on international efforts for a mediated settlement of the six-year-old Gulf war, Al-Subhi said Kuwait as current chairman of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) and in view of its international political weight is qualified to lead fresh efforts in the same direction.

Pressed to elaborate, Al-Subhi said there were no fresh peace proposals but he said Kuwait and OIC are required to seek to come up with a practical one.

He said if Iran was sincerely seeking co-existence with its Arab Gulf neighbors, the GCC states would be the first to welcome such formula. But he deplored that such a concept has not taken shape yet and said even if a peace formula has eventually evolved, it must first bring the Iran-Iraq war to an end "because there cannot be any talk of peace plans when the war is still raging."

Asked on limits, if any, of cooperation between the GCC states, Al-Subhi categorically dismissed the theory that the GCC was a military alliance.

He said he believes the council came into being "when a group of states which have much in common in their economies, politics and social life, felt a nagging need to assemble together within a specific framework to cooperate and coordinate their affairs."

"I personally stand for slow, step-by-step and carefully calculated moves so that we attain our goals at the right time," he added.

The GCC was founded in 1981 grouping Saudi Arabia with Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister on Gulf Navigation

LD211351 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Mar (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, said today that the freedom of navigation in international waterways is guaranteed to all.

Replying to a question by journalists about Iran's recent installation of missiles in positions overlooking the navigation routes in the Strait of Hormuz at the southern end of the Arabian Gulf, Shaykh Sabah said "the international waters of the Gulf do not belong to us inasmuch as they are international waters open to the whole world." He added: "The Gulf is not for Kuwait alone, or for any one country. It is a waterway serving the good of all world peoples and countries, and the good of all humanity." From this standpoint, he said: "We are not surprised by the attention paid by the big powers to the developments in the Gulf and their efforts to ensure freedom of navigation."

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad welcomed the holding of a meeting in Kuwait between PDRY Government officials and South Yemeni opposition leaders now living in North Yemen since the events of January 1986 in Aden. However, Shaykh Sabah denied there are arrangements or agreement on holding such a meeting in Kuwait, adding "we have no information about such a meeting."

Shaykh Sabah was thus commenting on a SABA' news agency report 2 days ago saying a meeting between PDRY Government officials and Yemeni opposition leaders living in North Yemen will be held in Kuwait tomorrow, Sunday, to discuss the question of South Yemeni citizens who left to live in North Yemen.

BAHRAIN

Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy Arrives in Manama 21 March

JN211057 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1045 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Manama, 21 Mar (WAKH) — Muhammad Bashir al-Mughayribi, the Libyan president's [title as received] envoy, arrived in Manama from Riyadh at noon today on a short visit to Bahrain.

Al-Mughayribi will convey a message to His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the Bahraini amir, from Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on the current Arab situation and the Libyan stand.

Meets With Amir

JN221255 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Manama, 22 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of the State of Bahrain, has received a message from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on various current Arab issues and developments.

The message was conveyed by the Libyan leader's envoy, Muhammad Bashir al-Mughayribi, when he was received by the amir today.

Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah attended the meeting.

The Libyan envoy will leave Manama for Doha later today following a 2-day visit to Bahrain within the framework of a tour of the region.

KUWAIT

Paper Warns U.S. About 'Blind' Support for Israel

JN221643 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic
20 Mar 87 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "Carter, the Palestinian"]

[Text] In the special relationship that exists between the United States and Israel, a pressing question continues to arise that no one is able to answer, neither the strategists, the political observers, nor those who follow all developments and details: Who controls whom?

The question has been the subject of speculation, analysis, and interpretation for almost half a century, particularly as the firm base that governs relations between the two sides is very solid, and U.S. support for the Zionist enemy has become almost blind.

The only exception to the long-standing question occurred during the Eisenhower administration on the eve of the tripartite aggression against Egypt when President Eisenhower, in a commanding tone, asked Abba Eban to tell his government to immediately begin withdrawing its forces from the Sinai. Eisehower then concluded the meeting before Abba Eban could ask a single question or even reply.

Although historical documents have shown that compelling Israel to withdraw from the Sinai was the prelude to the U.S. entry in the region to inherit the French and British empires, this entry was the beginning of a ramified U.S. role that extended throughout the whole region and nearly monopolized the region for a long time, notwithstanding some pockets of opposition.

A corollary to the previous question but less vague and easier to answer is: Who makes the decisions in the United States?

Is it the White House, the State Department, Congress, the cartel of companies, the media, or the oil companies? Is it a lobby, regardless of its nationality, or is it public opinion?

The simple answer is that all these bodies and institutions take part in the decisionmaking process. Even if their methods and means conflict, the goal remains the same: the American empire.

We were prompted to ask these two questions by the recent remarks made by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter in which he emphasized the need for PLO participation in the international conference on the Middle East and the need to establish a homeland for the Palestinians, as there can be no peace in the region without such a homeland.

Carter is not alone in taking this line which is contrary to the declared U.S. policy on this issue. He was preceded by other presidents, secretaries of state, and ambassadors who, like Carter, made the same demands as the Arabs and Palestinians, but only after they resigned and relinquished their responsibilities. Nixon, Ford, Carter, and many former ambassadors and retired secretaries of state adopted similar stands and made similar calls. Why then such a change in stands? Why such daring, indeed such clear justice, after relinquishing their official pots?

At the White House and in other U.S. agencies they speak firmly and stubbornly, and then they turn a new leaf and take a new line that is in sharp contrast to their official commitments and to the responsibilities of their office.

Carter has not matured to the point where one could say he now understands, nor has he become aware of new facts to retreat from his former stand, or awakened so that one could say he has shaken off his sleep. It was during his administration that his Secretary of State Kissinger [as published] laid down his rule on PLO participation in an international conference and set the conditions for such participation. The same rule still holds in U.S. diplomacy, and the same conditions are still valid.

The rule and conditions apply not only to the Palestinians but to the Soviets as well. They are excluded from participating in finding a solution, and their participation in an international conference, if convened, is conditional. The U.S. conditions for Soviet participation are known: the emigration of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine and the resumption of diplomatic relations between Moscow and Tel Aviv. U.S. diplomacy on the Middle East question and on combating Soviet influence is characterized by stupidity. The United States is opening the way for the Russians to advance with its present policy; indeed, they are building bases for the Russians despite Washington's awareness of the impossibility of Arab-Russian coexistence and its firm belief in the sharp contradiction between Islam and Communism.

The U.S. insistence on disregarding the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the lack of seriousness in its approach to peace in the Middle East give the Soviets a historic opportunity to jump on the Middle East, and the Soviets are masters at reaping the fruits of the U.S policy mistakes and exploiting the fumbling stands of the United States.

The Arab states will not remain idle for [illegible] in the face of the blind U.S. support of Israel and will not continue to be captive to the present dilemma. Silence usually precedes the storm. The fire is simmering beneath the ashes. The sweeping Arab storm may be carried by a U.S. wind and may kindle the fire that is now simmering beneath the ashes. Then the masks will be to no avail in preserving the sight, and fireproof clothes will be of no use.

There is only one thing that could stave off such a possibility resulting from U.S. actions, and that is that the White House speak in the same tone as those who used to occupy it so that peace will really prevail and the Russians will retreat behind their walls forever.

OMAN

France's Raimond Meets Foreign Ministry Officials

JN221501 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] A round of official talks was held at the Foreign Ministry this morning between an Omani delegation led by His Excellency Yusuf ibn 'Alawi ibn 'Abdallah, [minister of state for foreign affairs] and a French delegation led by His Excellency Jean-Bernard Raimond, minister of foreign affairs, currently visiting the Sultanate. They discussed ways to strengthen existing friendly ties, particularly economic and trade relations, and worked out preparations for the next session of the Omani-French committee scheduled to meet in Paris during the latter half of the year. The meeting also took up regional developments, including the Iran-Iraq war, the Mideast problem, Lebanon, Chad, and Afghanistan.

The talks were attended on the Omani side by Ahmad ibn Nasir al-Lamthi, head of the Africa desk; Salim ibn Muhammad al-Ghilani, head of the Asia desk; 'Abdallah ibn Muhammad al-Dhahab, head of the department of the office of his excellency the minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Awad ibn Badr al-Shanfri, head of the Arab desk; Muhammad ibn Yusuf al-Zarafi, deputy head of the Europe desk; and Hafiz ibn Hamad al-Rawashi of the Europe desk.

On the French side, the talks were attended by the delegation of the French minister and the French ambassador to the Sultanate. It is to be recalled that Jean-Bernard Raimond will hold a news conference this evening to discuss the outcome of his talks with Omani officials and France's stands on various issues.

Oil Minister on Prices, New Oil Fields

JN201453 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Petroleum and Minerals Minister Sa'id ibn Ahmad al-Shanfari has emphasized that the visit by His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id to the Siyalah oil field yesterday evening was another noble gesture complementing previous visits paid by his majesty to oil installations. He reiterated that this visit was a noble gesture which had positive effects on oil workers, prompting them to double their efforts and endeavors.

In an exclusive statement to *'Uman*, the minister said the production of the new oil field, one of 9 oilfields in the oil complex in Bahjah which produces 69,000 barrels per day [bpd], will not change the production rate of the Sultanate which committed itself to a production ceiling of 530,000 bpd, because the Sultanate wants to support OPEC efforts to preserve stability in the international oil market.

The minister said the production of the Siyalah oil field will be used to relieve pressure on oilfields currently being used. He added that many discoveries have been made recently, but that it was deemed necessary to delay production from these new oil fields until the oil situation improves.

Al-Shanfari said the Sultanate is currently selling its oil at $17.60 per barrel; it is not facing any marketing problems; its traditional consumers are still committed to buy scheduled oil quantities; and that there is an increasing demand for Omani oil.

The petroleum and minerals minister spoke about the pressures being exerted on oil-producing countries to torpedo their latest resolutions on prices and production and called these pressures losing cards which would become ineffective once the countries exerting such pressures run out of their oil reserves.

The minister paid tribute to the OPEC member states' eagerness to preserve a stable oil market and to their latest resolutions which have held out against pressures. He added that some other non-OPEC states lent great support to these resolutions.

PDRY

Al-Bid Addresses Mass Organizations Meeting

EA202020 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] The first consultative meeting of the leadership of mass organizations, which was organized by the Mass Organizations Department in the Central Committee Secretariat, ended this morning. It was presided over by Brother Sa'id Askari 'Abdallah, member and deputy secretary of the Central Committee.

Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, YSP Central Committee secretary general, delivered a speech at the end of the meeting. He pointed out that the Central Committee organized the meeting to strengthen links between the party and mass organizations on the one hand, and citizens on the other. He called on the mass organizations to make the resolutions of the fifth Central Committee session the pivot of their activities, to implement them, and to entrench the spirit of work in the various areas of their activities. He stressed the need to reinforce ideological work among the masses, and to link it with tangible problems. He called for struggle in various fields and said sound attitudes toward work should be strengthened, as they are the true attitudes needed in the struggle.

At the end of his speech, he called on the participants in the meeting to make this year one of work, production, and achievement in the interests of the workers. He emphasized the fact that this year is linked with several special anniversaries, namely the 20th anniversary of our national independence, the 25th anniversary of the 26 September glorious revolution [in the Yemen Arab Republic], and the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [in the USSR].

Paper Notes Soviet Discovery of Large Oil Field

LD230949 Kuwait KUNA in English 0812 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, March 23 (KUNA) — Oil explorations which the Soviet Union is carrying out in Democratic Republic of Yemen [words indistinct] Yemen, have recently realized positive results, *Al-Ittihad* newspaper reported Monday.

The newspaper, quoting official sources in Aden, said an oil-field which has been discovered recently is having estimated reserves of nearly one billion tons of crude oil, according to preliminary estimates.

The sources also said that shipments from that field have started arriving in Aden by oil tankers, adding that there is an intention to construct a pipeline from "Shbout" area, where the new oil-field is located, to the coast of the Arab Sea, after promising indications that another oil-field is located near Aden shores.

SAUDI ARABIA

Libyan Envoy Ends Visit, Leaves Jeddah 21 March

LD211824 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1812 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Jeddah, 21 Mar (SPA) — Muhammad Bashir al-Mughayribi, personal envoy of Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, left Jeddah this morning at the end of a visit to the Kingdom which lasted several days during which he conveyed a verbal message to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud, from his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

He was seen off at the airport by Salim Sunbul, director general of the Foreign Ministry and Protocol in the western region, and by a representative from the Royal Protocol Department.

Military Officials Welcome French Chief of Staff

LD201831 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1751 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 20 Mar (SPA) — General Jean Saulnier, chief of staff of the French Armed Forces, arrived in Riyadh this evening for a visit to the Kingdom lasting several days.

He was welcomed on arrival by the chief of the General Staff, General Muhammad al-Hamad, as well as by commanders of the various branches of the Armed Forces, a number of senior officers, the French military attache to the Kingdom, and the Saudi military attache to France and Switzerland, Colonel Muhammad Hasan 'Abd al-Ghani.

Defense Minister Meets Official

LD211438 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1405 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Mar (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, received at his highness' palace this afternoon General Jean Saulnier, chief of the General Staff of the French Armed Forces, who is presently on a visit to the Kingdom.

Staff General Muhammad al-Hamad, chief of the General Staff; the French ambassador to the Kingdom; the French military attache to the Kingdom; and Muhammad Hassan 'abd al-Ghani, Saudi military attache to France and Switzerland, were present at the reception.

Souvenirs were exchanged at the end of the reception.

UAE

PDRY President Arrives 21 March, Makes Statement

JN211633 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, March 21 (GNA) — President of Yemen Democratic Republic Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas arrived here today on a 3-day visit to the UAE. He was received at the airport by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan.

In a statement on his arrival, President al-'Attas said that the visit truly reflects the close relations linking the Yemen Democratic Republic to the UAE. It also represents an advanced step on the road of promoting bilateral relations.

He also said that the visit is a good chance to exchange views on means of promoting bilateral relations for the service of both peoples and for the security and stability of the region.

Al-'Attas added that he would discuss with Shaykh Zayid and other senior officials developments of the Arab and international situation and issues of interest to both countries. Concluding, President al-'Attas expressed hope that the visit would be fruitful and would help in clearing the Arab atmosphere and boosting Arab solidarity.

To Discuss Bilateral Issues

NC212016 Paris AFP in English 1957 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, March 21 (AFP) — President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas of South Yemen arrived in Abu Dhabi Saturday on a three-day official visit, his first since the January 1986 bloody civil war which brought him to power in the place of former President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

The president said on arrival that he will discuss with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and other emirates officials latest developments in Arab and international matters and issues of interest to both countries.

He said his visit to the oil-rich Gulf state was in response to an invitation from the UAE president, whom he described as a champion of Arab unity.

In an interview published Saturday in the semi-official UAE newspaper *Al-Ittihad*, Mr. Al-'Attas said he was ready to resume reconciliation talks with North Yemen, which were disrupted by the January 1986 coup that left some 10,000 people dead.

"We are ready to meet Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih (president of North Yemen) at any time and in any place", the South Yemeni leader said.

However, he added Aden was also "keen on the return of deserters with the understanding and coordination of our brothers in the northern sector of the (Yemeni) nation with the exception of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and 47 others, who were not included in the general amnesty decision".

Yemeni sources estimate that about 30,000 South Yemenis have fled their homeland following the civil war, most of whom are reportedly living in North Yemen.

Official Talks Begin

JN221237 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0946 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Mar (WAKH) — An official round of talks between His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, and Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, began here today. The talks were attended on the UAE side by Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister; Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the UAE president's office; Sa'id al-Raqbani, minister of agriculture and fisheries; Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Sayf al-Jarwan, minister of economy and trade.

They were attended on the PDRY side by Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee; Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, Politburo member and foreign minister; Taha 'Ali Salih, member of the Supreme People's Council Presidium; Salim Ba Salim, minister of education; and Ahmad Salih Haji, the PDRY ambassador to the UAE.

Gives News Conference

JN222121 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2030 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Mar (WAKH) — PDRY President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas has praised the brotherly relations between his country and the UAE. He noted the role that is being played by UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan in promoting these relations. President Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas especially praised the UAE president's concern to support PDRY development efforts. He indicated that during the talks, the two sides discussed all issues pertaining to the promotion and development of bilateral cooperation. They also discussed the Arab nation's issues, clearing the atmosphere, and meeting the challenges facing our nation.

Replying to a question at the news conference held by the PDRY chairman this evening, as reported by WAM, on Kuwait's mediation between the two Yemens, he pointed out that Kuwaiti officials, especially Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, are exerting their good efforts to contain and remove all the causes of tension between the two Yemens. He said that several meetings have been held in Sanaa and Aden in this regard. He expressed the hope that the Kuwaiti efforts will succeed.

Al-'Attas stressed his country's concern about the return of the evacuees according to the general amnesty, except former PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and 47 of his followers.

He stressed that UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan is also concerned about clearing the atmosphere between the two Yemens. In this connection, he stressed his country's concern about implementing the general amnesty, which expires in July, and taking all necessary measures to facilitate the return of the evacuees. He said that the number of evacuees is approximately 6,000 according to the PDRY Government's lists.

He said that officials in Sanaa established camps to shelter the evacuees. He said: We consider these camps to be temporary sheltersfor the evacuees. We are exerting efforts to tackle this issue and organize their return.

He pointed out that the number of those killed during the January incidents was 5,000, material losses were $120 million, and most of the damage was confined to Aden.

Zayid Receives Message From Bangladesh President

JN211518 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1305 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Mar (WAM) — His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, today received a verbal message from Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammed Ershad on bilateral relations and economic cooperation and ways to promote them. UAE Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad received the message during his meeting with Bangladesh Ambassador to the UAE (Abu Sa'id Khayr al-Anam) this morning.

There was a review of bilateral relations during the meeting and the Bangladesh ambassador briefed Shaykh Hamdan on projects the UAE is implementing in Bangladesh which are about to be completed. The ambassador thanked UAE officials for the continued cooperation between the UAE and Bangladesh to achieve progress.

YAR

Development Minister on Oil, Economic Plans

JN230935 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 20 Mar 87 pp 32-33, 82

[Interview with Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, YAR minister of development and planning, by *Al-Musawwar* correspondent in Sanaa — date not given]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] *Al-Musawwar*: It is said the YAR will be able to export 200,000 barrels of oil per day in 1987.

Al-'Attar: Last September, the president said the oil reserves in the country are approximately 500 million barrels. No doubt the oil discoveries will lead to what you say. We will start exporting oil on 15 November. When our oil installations are built, we will be able to export 400,000 barrels. Last April, we began refining oil in the first oil refinery in the country. Other refineries will also start operating.

Al-Musawwar: But will oil be your main income?

Al-'Attar: No. In general, the remittances of Yemenis working abroad is the main source of hard currency earnings enabling us to import what we need and to implement our development plans. We also obtain assistance and loans from fraternal countries.

Al-Musawwar: Have these remittances been affected by the drop in oil prices?

Al-'Attar: Yes, the remittances dropped as in other states. However, the YAR was less affected because Yemeni workers are still in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states and they have certain privileges.

Al-Musawwar: How big are these remittances?

Al-'Attar: They are now estimated at $800 million. They were $1.4 billion before oil prices dropped. We will compensate for this through our oil exports. I must say the discovery of oil in our country does not mean we will copy the mode of consumption prevailing in other Third World states and some Arab states. The bulk of the oil revenues must go to genuine development projects. Special emphasis will be laid on agriculture and related problems such as irrigation by means of wells and dams, as well as training cadres and expanding arable land. All this will have our utmost attention. I personally believe that genuine development comes through agriculture regardless of the amount of money available to us. Emphasis will also be laid on utilizing our oil wealth rationally. Our oil exports will not be on such a scale as to expend our reserves. We want the oil to last 40 years.

Al-Musawwar: Will the current rate of production increase these years by 30 in light of the recent discoveries?

Al-'Attar: It is possible to extend this to 25 years. We also intend to utilize the gas that is discovered with the oil and also the natural gas in generating power for our factories.

Al-Musawwar: Are the gas reserves similar in size to the oil reserves?

Al-'Attar: Yes, our gas reserves are extensive. They are bigger than the oil reserves. We are also working to produce gas for homes. This can be produced from timber and forests. We are attaching great importance to this project and may finish it by the end of this year. As for natural gas, we are working to use it for generating power in the cement factories. Therefore, we are not thinking of exporting gas at the present time, given the great funds necessary for its production and liquifaction. Moreover, there are big countries which can compete in the field of natural gas. [passage omitted]

Al-Musawwar: How important is the private sector in the Yemeni development?

Al-'Attar: We have a clear conception. The public sector undertakes the big projects which only the state can implement, such as the infrastructure projects and other great projects, such as cement factories. We have the mixed sector and we are experienced in this field. The Bank of Yemen's capital is shared by the government and the private sector in the ratio of 51 and 49, respectively. This bank played a great role in development. Our tobacco and match factories are also in the mixed sector.

The private sector has its role. Most of our industries were established by the private sector. Some private sector factories established training centers. The National Charter affirms the role of the private sector. In general, all these sectors should cooperate to promote development, each in its own field. We must monitor their performance. [passage omitted]

Al-Musawwar: Do you have a debt problem?

Al-'Attar: Our debts do not exceed $1.3 billion, most of which are long-term loans extending over a period fo 40 years. We only obtain easy loans and for basic requirements and we do not face any problems.

Al-Musawwar: What is the amount of assistance and grants?

Al-'Attar: Around $700 million.

Mubarak Reportedly To Visit USSR Later 'This Year'

NC221254 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] According to press sources in Cairo, President Husni Mubarak will accept an official invitation to visit Moscow during the second half of this year.

Jordan's King Husayn Arrives in Cairo 22 March

NC221054 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1020 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan arrived in Cairo at noon today.

Official Talks Begin

JN221421 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo — Official talks between Jordan headed by His Majesty King Husayn and Egypt headed by His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, began at the president's palace at noon today. On the Jordanian side, the talks were attended by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri; and Jordanian Ambassador in Cairo Husayn Hamami. The talks were attended on the Egyptian side by Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense and war production minister; Ihab Wahbah, the Egyptian ambassador in Amman; Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and director of the president's office for political affairs; and Dr Mustafa al-Fiqhi, director of the president's office.

His Majesty King Husayn arrived at Cairo International Airport at noon today on a working visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt. The king was received upon arrival by His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, who escorted his majesty in an official motorcade to the presidential palace, where the official reception protocol was performed. Formations of the honor guard saluted the king, while the musical band played the Jordanian and Egyptian national anthems. His majesty the king then reviewed the honor guard and shook hands with senior officials: Dr 'Ali Lutfi, speaker of the Consultative Council; Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi; deputy prime ministers; the ministers; the Jordanian ambassador in Cairo; and high-ranking civilian and military officials.

Views Conference, Gulf War

NC221632 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — King Husayn of Jordan left Cairo for Jordan this afternoon, after a visit of several hours. President Husni Mubarak saw him off at Cairo airport. [passage omitted]

In his statements to journalists after the farewell ceremonies at the presidential headquarters, the Jordanian King affirmed his country's stand on the question of an international Middle East peace conference. Jordan's view is that this conference should take place with the participation of the parties concerned, including the PLO and the five permanent member states of the UN Security Council. President Mubarak remarked that no one can speak on behalf of the PLO, and noted that Egypt is holding consultations with the PLO to coordinate positions and facilitate the convocation of the conference.

Responding to a question about the Iraq-Iran war, the Jordanian monarch said he had discussed this subject with President Mubarak. They had also examined the dimensions of all recent developments in the area, as well as the issues, problems, and current situation in the Arab world.

King Husayn noted that there is agreement on the desire to end that war and stop the bloodshed on the basis of a return to the recognized international borders, and exchange of prisoners, and a start of negotiations. In this way, the atmosphere could be cleared and all the reasons which led to this war could be dealt with.

Discusses Missiles in Hormuz

JN221900 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] During 4 hours of talks today, President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn discussed the Iraq-Iran war and the deployment of Iranian missiles at the entrance to the Gulf. They also discussed the peace process. King Husayn asserted his full support for Iraq and expressed hope that the war will end soon and peace talks will begin between the warring sides. He also asked the two sides to exchange POW's and return to the international border.

The talks also dealt with the serious situation in the Gulf in light of the deployment of surface-to-surface missiles along the northern coast of the Hormuz Strait, causing concern among the Gulf states. I have also learned that this subject was also discussed by Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah and the Jordanian Commander in Chief al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, who is accompanying King Husayn on his brief visit to Cairo.

Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger said the United States is taking all necessary military measures to face all eventualities. He affirmed U.S. readiness to respond to any request for help to ensure the safety of ships in the Gulf and freedom of navigation through the most important passageway in the world.

President Mubarak held a closed meeting with King Husayn which was followed by a working luncheon that lasted 2 hours before the king left Cairo this afternoon. In a statement after the talks, President Mubarak said Egypt is in continuous contact with the PLO to facilitate the convening of an international conference. However, he said that this requires time.

Despite the lack of contact and coordination between the PLO and Jordan, Mubarak and King Husayn affirmed that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people — an irrevocable Arab summit decision.

King Husayn's visit and talks with Mubarak are part of the continuous contacts and coordination between the two countries. It is the first meeting after Mubarak's talks with Shim'on Peres and the king's talks in a number of European states.

Jordanian sources said there is complete coordination between President Mubarak and King Husayn on the peace process, the convening of the international conference, and the importance of ascertaining the U.S. role and the ability to deal positively with the problem.

Departs Cairo 22 Mar

NC221532 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Excerpt] King Husayn of Jordan and his accompanying delegation left Cairo for Jordan this afternoon after a visit of several hours, during which he held talks with President Husni Mubarak. President Mubarak had earlier hosted a working luncheon in honor of King Husayn and the delegation accompanying him, which was attended by members of the Egyptian delegation to the talks. [passage omitted]

Libyan, Syrian Nationals Request Political Asylum

NC202103 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Two people, a Libyan and a Syrian, have requested political asylum in Egypt following their arrival in Cairo the day before yesterday, Wednesday.

The Cairo papers, which reported the news in their Saturday editions, said 'Abdallah Habib, the Libyan passenger, arrived at Cairo airport from Turkey and tore up his passport. The Syrian passenger, Hazim Habbani, arrived from Jordan. The airport authorities have started interrogations with the two passengers.

Ghali Meets With Soviet Delegation 22 March

NC221359 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1125 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, received Vladimir Tolstikov, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity [title as received], and his accompanying delegation, today. The Soviet officials are currently paying a visit to Egypt.

During this meeting, the conferees reviewed the development of bilateral relations. They also affirmed the existence of a spirit of cooperation between the two countries in this new stage that will strengthen the idea of Afro-Asian cooperation and support the peoples of both continents in their struggle for development, stability, and peace.

Awqaf Minister Promises Aid to Soviet Muslims

NC221506 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — Minister of Awqaf Dr Muhammad 'Ali Mahjub has decided to provide scholarships to Soviet Muslims to study the Arabic language and Islam in Egypt. He also plans to send Egyptian ulema to promote Islam in the Soviet Union, and to supply Soviet mosques and Islamic institutions with religious libraries.

During a meeting today with [Shaykh ol-Eslam Shukr Basha Zadeh], chairman of the Spiritual Administration of Muslims of the Transcaucasus, who is currently visiting Cairo, the Minister of Awqaf declared that Egypt pays special attention to the affairs of Muslims in various parts of the world, particularly in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet visitor invited the minister of Awqaf to visit the Soviet Union to bolster religious relations with Muslims there. The minister promised to visit at a suitable time.

AL-AKHBAR Criticizes Soviet Stand on Gulf War

NC220737 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — An article appearing in tomorrow's edition of the *Al-Akhbar* newspaper criticizes the Soviet stand on the Iraq-Iran war. The article notes that Soviet radar monitoring posts have been established in Iran, and two of them are already operational. In exchange for these posts, 200 surface-to-surface *Scud* missiles were delivered to Iran, which has fired 20 of them at Baghdad.

The paper draws a parallel between this Soviet position and the Irangate scandal, which involved the United States in secret arms deliveries to Iran.

If one looks at this issue in the light of past revelations about other countries' involvement in arms sales to Iran, the paper asserts, then the undeniable truth becomes clear: those who sell arms to promote their own interests must not be relied upon to help end the Gulf war.

The paper argues that this absurd war, already in its seventh year, will not end unless the two warring nations become convinced that the fighting should stop. The Arab and Islamic nations, who consider a continuation of the hostilities to be against their best interests, can help the two countries reach this conclusion.

Iraq, the paper adds, has accepted all peace initiatives. The problem is Iran, which is said to be massing tens of thousands of troops on its southern [as received] borders in preparation for a final all-out offensive against Iraq. The Iranians are devoting all their efforts and mobilizing all their resources for the much publicized and long-awaited assault. They have not shown any interest in reaching a settlement, the paper concludes.

CSSR Official Arrives on 3-Day Visit

NC210434 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — Eng Padol Bahyl, deputy premier of Slovakia in the CSSR, arrived here this evening on a 3-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, the Czechoslovak official will hold talks with Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, on ways to promote economic and trade cooperation between the two countries. He will also visit the Cairo International Fair. The meetings of the Egyptian-Czechoslovak joint economic committee will open next June in Prague.

'Source' on Algerian President's Remarks

NC202117 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 20 Mar (MENA) — A responsible source has expressed extreme astonishment at the remarks about Egypt made by the Algerian president to a news agency today. The source commented on the remarks, saying:

Egypt, which is fully aware of its responsibility, abides by its principles, and honors its pan-Arab commitments regarding the issues of the Arab nation, has never asked Algeria to restore relations with Egypt. Egypt does not accept the setting of conditions for the return of these relations because Egypt does not impose conditions on anyone.

Commenting on the Algerian president's remarks to the effect that the Palestinian people are still displaced and are subjected to annihilation daily, the source said it would have been better for the Algerian president to put the blame on those who are murdering the Palestinian people and spilling the blood of their sons, as well as on those who continue to undermine Arab solidarity, instead of blaming Egypt, which has always supported the Arab and African liberation movements and offered tremendous sacrifices for them.

Mubarak Receives UAE Oil Minister, Envoy

NC211000 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utayban, UAE minister of petroleum, at the presidential headquarters in Misr al-Jadidah this morning.

The meeting was attended by Muhammad Jasim Samhan, head of the UAE interests mission in Cairo.

Dr al-'Utaybah arrived in Cairo on 16 March for a visit expected to last several days.

Minister on Meeting

NC211408 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1225 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Following his meeting with President Husni Mubarak today, UAE Minister of Petroleum Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah praised the positive role played by Egypt with regard to oil policies. He noted that Egypt is continuing to help raise oil prices and to stabilize the current price at $18 per barrel. Egypt has faithfully adhered to the oil prices, he stated, an action which supports OPEC.

Minister al-'Utaybah said: During this meeting, I conveyed greetings from UAE President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan to his brother President Husni Mubarak. He added that he had reviewed the latest developments in the oil markets, including the rise in oil prices to $18 a barrel. He considered this price to be a big gain for oil producing countries whether or not they are OPEC members.

Responding to a question on reports that he had recently mediated between two Arab countries, Al-'Utaybah asserted that these reports are out of the question. However, he affirmed, we share with Egypt the same feelings on the need to strengthen the Arab position in all economic and political fields and to clear the Arab atmosphere. He added: We are proceeding along the path charted by the UAE president to coordinate the efforts of our brothers in all domains.

Departs 21 March

NC211414 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum, left Cairo this afternoon following a 5-day visit to Egypt during which he was received by President Husni Mubarak.

Senegalese Envoy Concludes Visit, Departs 21 Mar

NC210937 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Moustapha Cissi, personal envoy of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, left Cairo this morning after a 4-day visit to Egypt. During his visit he was received by President Husni Mubarak, to whom he delivered a message from the Senegalese president.

The Senegalese envoy also met with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, while he was in Cairo.

Mubarak Receives Islamic Radios Council Members

NC211207 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the members of the Executive Council of the Islamic Radios Organization at the presidential headquarters in Misr al-Jadidah at noon today. The council includes representatives from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Jordan, Oman, PDRY, Pakistan, Palestine [as heard] Niger, Malaysia, and Egypt.

The meeting was also attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif; Husayn 'Anan, chairman of the Radio and Television Union Trustee Council; and Dr Mamduh al-Biltaji, chief of the Public Information Authority.

Alexandrians Protest Israeli Consulate Plans

PM201327 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 16 Mar 87 p 1,9

[Report by Jamal 'Abd al-Sami': "Israeli Consul in Danger; People of Alexandria Warn Both Foreign and Interior Ministers of Situation"]

[Excerpts] In a precedent-setting act, lawyer 'Adil 'Id has sent an important warning to Dr Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Major General Zaki Badr, minister of the interior; and Major General [name not given], inspector of state security intelligence in Alexandria; at the request of the people of Alexandria in connection with dangers threatening the residents of the "Luran" District of Al-Raml, Alexandria, because of the Israeli consul's intention to reside in this area after his stay at his original residence in the Rushdi District of Alexandria has, for unkown reasons, expired.

The residents of the property at 207 'Abd al-Salam 'Arif Street, formerly Al-Fasahah, Luran, al-Raml have stressed in their petition to lawyer 'Adil 'Id — who in turn included it in his warning to the officials — that news of allocating two apartments on this site to the Israeli consul had adversely affected the people in the area in general and the residents of the property in particular.

This is in view of the fact that housing the Israeli consular mission on this site will expose the residents and the people of the area to dangers jeopardizing their lives and possessions. Consequently tight security will need to be imposed in and around the building.

This would lead, for security reasons, to restrictions on the freedom of the people in terms of passing near the building or simply coming near the property. [passage omitted]

One of the residents of this property is a Palestinian who is a PLO member. Therefore it cannot be imagined that he could coexist with his Israeli enemies who usurped his country and drove away its people and massacred tens of thousands of Palestinian women and children. [passage omitted]

Therefore, through lawyer 'Adil 'Id, the residents of the district in general and the residents of the property in particular have sent a warning through a court bailiff to the foreign minister, interior minister, and inspector of state security intelligence in Alexandria and the owners of the two apartments intended to be let to the Israeli consulate to immediately refrain from entering into a contract with the Israeli consulate.

If there is no response to the warning, the residents of the building will not allow any person holding Israeli nationality to enter it.

The Israeli consul himself was also warned to desist, immediately and without hesitation, from proceeding with renting the two apartments. In addition, he was told that residents of the building and the people of the area harbor only feelings of hostility, hatred, and repugnance toward the Israeli consulate staff and that they totally reject the idea of Israelis residing among them or an Israeli flag flying over this building. [passage omitted]

AL-SH'AB Editor Sees Israeli Role in Debt Issue

PM211955 Cairo AL-SH'AB in Arabic 17 Mar 87 pp 1, 4

[Chief Editor 'Adil Husayn article: "How They Rule Us and How Decisions Are Issued"]

[Excerpts] Two weeks ago we wondered what has been done with regard to the civilian and military debt crisis. In other words, we asked what happened to our talks with the IMF, the U.S. Government, and Shim'on Peres. We said that all the din and dust emanating from the election battle will not distract us from what is happening with regard to these talks. They are serious and comprehensive talks and the enemies are trying to strike a deal with our government. They would make it easier for it to repay debts by reducing interest and spreading repayment over a longer period in return for the ceding to them of whatever is left of our sovereignty in the political, military, and economic fields. I beg to assure the reader that I am not exaggerating, for what I said is precisely what is being demanded.

The Egyptian leadership has now realized that the United States refuses to ease its stranglehold on us unless we accept its political and economic conditions. It has been established that the only way we can avoid begging from the skinflint is to be patient and self-reliant. Successive tours [by Mubarak] of Western Europe have proved that those countries do not wish to cooperate with us in the matter of debts unless the United States is involved. Tours of the Gulf states and visits to them have shown that the key to them is in Washington and in Washington there is the IMF and the World Bank.

It remains to be said that the U.S. Government tries to convince us the key to its heart and treasures is in Israel. It never tires of repeating this to us.

During the past 2 weeks, that is, since the previous article, some reports have surfaced about the agreement with the IMF faltering. I do not know whether the report is true or meant to mislead. What has been published in Egypt and abroad confirms that an agreement has been reached and that its implementation has been put off until after the elections. Will the NDP now try to deny a disastrous agreement to avoid an opposition campaign against it during the elections? God only knows. But whatever the case may be, it is the duty of the authorities to issue a clear statement to enlighten us. The matter is far too serious to be left to rumors and speculation. The so-called draft letter of intent which the Egyptian Government submitted to the IMF director general so it could be put to the board of executive directors becomes an international agreement if the other party — the IMF — approves it. [passage omitted]

It is our right to know what we have told the IMF and what the IMF wants or objects to. It is our right to know. Moreover, are we earnestly proceeding on the path to reform to reduce our need for IMF funds and loans? Are we seeking to minimize our need for this Fund that never gives aid without a quid pro quo?

We bear witness to the fact that this has not happened. Yes, our government has not improved anything in its decayed policy. Therefore, our need for these satanic quarters will continue and increase. If it is true that the letter of intent (that is, the draft agreement) is faltering because of our persistence in asking for leniency from the debtors, what could be the arguments we are putting forth to the debtors (the IMF) other than a yielding to U.S. political demands?

We would like to ask what happened during Peres' visit to Cairo. Headlines in the official press said that Peres' talks focused on the question of an international conference on the Palestinian problem but, despite the clouds and the various methods of deceit, it is now rumored that the question of the conference was not the focal point of the talks and, according to some sources, it was not even discussed. [passage omitted]

What we are certain of is that Peres' trip was closely connected with the debt question. The principal U.S. condition for facilitating our military debts and interceding with the IMF to facilitate the civilian debts is the deepening and widening of Egyptian-Israeli relations. When Peres came for this purpose he carried with him proof that he is a "well-meaning mediator" and so he interceded with the U.S. Governmnent to rescue us from an acute predicament.

Did we not read in the papers last week that the U.S. Government has suddenly granted us $110 million? World radio stations and news agencies gave this extraordinary coverage. The reason was that we were in a "tight spot" vis-a-vis the U.S. Government because we had to pay it $90 million immediately or otherwise suffer severe penalties under the agreements we concluded with it. Our reputation with international financial circles was so low that we were unable to obtain this small amount, so Peres interceded with Washington, which soon responded to the Zionist desire by granting us this amount over which the government newspapers made such a song and dance. The U.S. Government took the amount from its right pocket and put it in its left one. Note that the grant was $110 million. That includes an extra $20 million dollars as a tip actually received by [Prime Minister] Dr 'Atif Sidqi for the government to spend as it deems fit.

Undoubtedly this U.S. action is an indication that submitting to the policy of appeasement and reconciliation with Israel brings in money and facilitates debts. Contemporary Egyptian history reminds us that the Jews have always played a role in this game. [passage omitted]

I would like to remind the reader that Peres' offers during his recent talks in Cairo went beyond the $110 million. He renewed the talk about the previous plan that bears his name which Dr Mustafa Khalil helped draft with the Israeli side. Peres spoke about the possibility of providing major finance for promoting joint development that would achieve complementarity between Egypt and Israel. It is a plan that would, God forbid, bring about Zionist control of our economy. [passage omitted]

Who makes the political decision and how is it made? These are two extremely important questions. Remember that Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal once raised these two questions, but when he began answering them and analyzing them his articles came to a halt.

But it is our duty to continue to discuss this subject, for without a clear answer to these two questions our political structure remains defective and the nation's future will remain threatened by all kinds of danger. [passage omitted]

The elections will not distract us from following up what is happening behind the back of the Islamic and nationalist forces. Rather, the elections will be an opportunity to uncover the defects of the political regime. They will be an opportunity to mobilize the masses to effect the desired change so that we will uphold the word of God, defend the homeland and its interests and security, and protect the citizens' rights and liberties.

This could be the approach to discussing our electoral program in the next article, God willing.

Economy Under Secretary Cited on FRG Loans

NC201629 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Bonn, 20 Mar (MENA) — 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zahawi, first under secretary at the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade, left Bonn this morning after having led an Egyptian delegation to talks with FRG officials on economic cooperation programs for the year 1987. [passage omitted]

Al-Zahawi told MENA that during the talks with a delegation led by his FRG counterpart, West Germany agreed to give Egypt DM235 million in soft loans. The loans are to be repaid over the next 50 years, with a 10-year grace period, at an interest rate of 0.75 percent. Another loan of DM80.6 million will also be extended to Egypt on easy terms. In addition, the FRG will give Egypt DM34 million as a grant for technical assistance. [passage omitted]

Mentioning that an agreement was reached to reschedule part of Egypt's present debts to the FRG, Al-Zahawi praised the FRG stand. He said that despite the reduction in FRG loans to Third World countries, the FRG, due to its good relations with Egypt, has decided not to slash the easy loans and technical assistance to Egypt this year.

30 Fundamentalists Held in Fighting in Sawhaj

NC211521 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Sawhaj, 21 Mar (MENA) — The Public Prosecutor's Office has decided to keep 30 members of the radical Islamic groups who participated in yesterday's demonstrations in Sawhaj in custody for an indefinite amount of time. After yesterday's Friday prayers, police foiled an attempt by certain radical members to stage a demonstration outside the Ansar al-Sunna Mosque, where members of the radical groups hold their meetings and seminars. A police force led by Major General Samir Sa'id, director of security in Sawhaj, immediately proceeded to the scene of the demonstration. He advised the demonstrators to disperse, but they began attacking the policemen with bricks and iron rods. Three officers, Lieutenant Colonel Tariq Makkawi and Majors Yahya Abu Talib and Baha' al-'Attar, were injured in the incident. In addition, 8 policemen and 11 members of the radical group were injured. Maj Gen Samir Sa'id said the police force is patrolling the streets closely to guard jewelry shops, mosques, and churches.

2 NPUG Members Detained on Sedition Charges

NC211601 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1442 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — An NPUG candidate running for the People's Assembly and another NPUG member have been detained on charges of inciting sectarian sedition in a village in the Kafr al-Shaykh Governorate. A Muslim and a Christian in the village of Shabas al-Shuhada', Disuq District, Kafr al-Shaykh Governorate had an ordinary difference of opinion over a plot of land and building rights. 'Abd al-'Aziz Yusuf Abu Harb, the NPUG candidate for the People's Assembly, and 'Abd al-'Azim al-Shahawi, an NPUG member, tried to exploit this by stirring up sedition and breaking the reigning law and order.

A number of people were prompted to hurl bricks at the home of a Christian and set it on fire after the Friday prayer yesterday. Four homes belonging to Christians and three belonging to Muslims were consequently burned down, because the fire spread due to large quantities of rice chaff in the area. Mrs Badriyah Yusuf was killed and other citizens were injured in the fire. Some 48 Muslims and Christians were detained, including the NPUG candidate and member. The prosecution has begun investigating the incident.

Saddam Message on Foiling Iranian Intentions

JN220845 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Message from President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces, to the Iraqi people, "on the fall of Iran's slogan of the year of decisiveness," on 22 March 1987; read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O glorious Iraqis. O sons of the immortal two rivers [the Tigris and the Euphrates]. O honorable Arabs everywhere. Today, 22 March 1987, we celebrate to express our joy at the advent of a special day in our life, and in the course of the struggle between wills: the will of evil represented by the Iranian enemy and all its allies and all those involved with it, and the will of good represented by the Iraqis on the frontline backed by all the good efforts, sincere prayers, and honest good wishes for the Arab nation and its zealous sons.

In these celebrations, we are not only expressing pride in our achievements as a great people that is part of a glorious nation, but we are renewing the determination and pledge to continue along the path of glory and steadfastness to its certain destination of compete victory and honorable peace — relying on the same principles and values for which the heroes of our people shed rivers of blood and their souls rose to heaven wrapped by the cherished Iraqi flag, while those who remained were honorable and zealous. Both [the martyrs and the survivors] are satisfied and deserve to be commended, for they have carried out their duty and safeguarded the trust bestowed on them.

You remember, brothers, that the evil men in Iran raised their abysmal slogan last year that the year would be decisive and final, that their will, the will of evil, would triumph, and the will of the Iraqis, the will of good and steadfastness, would be defeated. You recall that when they raised that abysmal slogan it was echoed — as a kind of propaganda and intimidation — by the Zionist circles and all who want evil for the Arab nation and who resist any seed capable of growing and bearing fruit in the Arab land. Other forces adopted stands wavering between opportunism and cheap appeasement of the will of evil, imagining that it might win this time. Some on the Arab and international levels remained loyal to their principles and true to their word. Their hearts were with us, and their wishes opposed the evil will and intentions — although their expression of their wishes was linked with the known circumstances and facts of international relations and with the circumstances of and contradictions in the Arab situation.

The enemy threw in all his resources behind that slogan, and mobilized for its success all the low forces of evil in Iran, from the bottom of the ladder of vileness and crime where their charlatan Khomeyni lies, to the various levels of charlatanism around him. Honorable Arabs were saddened and pained by and feared the calamity that will befall the Arab nation and its future if, God forbid, the evil flowing from Iran were capable of breaking the solid barrier in glorious and proud Iraq.

Evil people and those who plot against the Arab nation reiterated the slogan of Iran's Khomeyni throughout the world. They said the war may be decided in Iran's favor this time, following the failure of all previous attempts. Such evil expectations were not based on such a false conclusion merely because Khomeyni had mobilized hundreds of thousands of his lost dogs and gave them sufficient time for training and technical preparation and for the destruction of thoughts and consciences. They were also based on what some people saw as the hidden part of the great conspiracy against the Arab nation and the bastion of steadfastness in Iraq.

They imagined that the preparations for the greatest conspiracy, whether they are hidden or apparent, were sufficient to take the Iraqi people and valiant men by surprise and would undermine their will and open the door for the conspiracy, whose pervious, less capable stages had failed to achieve their purpose. The parties to the conspiracy once again fell in the same great disillusionment that they frequently faced while dealing with the great July revolution. They assessed the balance of power only from the technical point of view. They imagined that merely pushing in larger and more effective forces, together with the surprise of involving unrevealed parties and using weapons whose type and size are unfamilar were enough to achieve what previous attempts had failed to achieve.

With unshaken will, determination, and resolve unaffected by the hammers of the Zionist and conspiratory mass media, the sons of Iraq were stimulated even further on behalf of all Arabs, recalling all the glory, pride, resolve, honor, and virtue in our grandfathers' history to face the enemy's evil inclinations and historical grudges. We opposed them with the immortal Iraqi slogan: We challenge you, evil ones, along with those who allied themselves with you and supported you, to make this evil year of yours a decisive year.

The Iraqis reiterated this slogan throughout Iraq with one roaring voice, one heart, and one conscience, accompanied with strong, firm chants of "God is great and down with the accursed." The men competed with each other in holding their weapons and preparing themselves for the battle. It was clear to all of us that the battle this time would be long and hard, that chaste blood would flow more than in the previous battles, and that we would lose more dear, honorable people. However, we said to ourselves we accept the challenge. We said, as our grandfathers said in the past: We prefer death to humiliation, and embracing death is better than fleeing from it. As the rural saying goes: Men prefer to live and die as lions than to live and die as sheep.

We believed and continue to believe that those of us who die will go to heaven. Any people in the world whose national honor and territory have been trampled under the feet of invaders and who were asked to choose between paying rivers of blood and maintaining an honorable, proud life or losing the homeland and living homeless, crushed, and with no national honor, would opt for offering sacrifices and blood and would reject humiliation, deportation, and the curse of God, angels, and future generations.

This awareness and faithfulness stimulated the Iraqis. The glorious Iraqi mothers began to urge their sons, husbands, and relatives and to remind them of the absolute shame in hesitation or weakness. They also began to remind them of the highest glory and honor on the path of resolve, determination, and confrontation. They were all as good as the homeland, history, honor, and the principles expected of them.

Several battles were fought in the past Iranian year. They were fought all along the front; from the southern sector under the VII and III Army Corps to the central sector under the II and I Special Corps. Each of those battles, from the Great Day battles to the Great Harvest battles, was an epic of heroism, general sacrifice, and bravery whose high spirit and deeds have never before been witnessed by history. Thus, the great conspiracy was destroyed and mutilated, the flag of treachery and evil was lowered, and the banner of steadfastness and dignity was hoisted in its place. The will of aggression has been defeated, and the will of steadfastness has triumphed.

O Iraqis, you have destroyed the great conspiracy at its most serious phase. You have destroyed the conspiracy against your present, future, hopes, security, honor, and sovereignty and the conspiracy against the security, honor, and sovereignty of the Arab nation by your heroic confrontation. The conspiracy has been destroyed and defeated, and its evil wind, which was feared by our righteous people, has receded. The remainder of this evil wind will be suppressed, God willing, by the Iraqi people. The evil conspiracy has been defeated, and its wind has receded. This conspiracy is now wallowing in the bitterness of defeat. The parties to this conspiracy are cursing one another, and all of them are cursing their bad luck.

You have confronted, O Iraqis, the planning and malice of five states, some of which are local and which see harm being done and persist in it, and others of which are international, [providing] all that their influence, deployment, and relations could supply in the way of malicious methods. Unfortunately, some of these states are from within the Arab house. Whoever contemplates the whole situation will discover the meaning of the defeat of such a dark conspiracy and will also understand why the Iraqis are celebrating on 22 March 1987. Whoever pondered what we said to the Iraqis on previous occasions — that Iraq alone stands for glory, honor, determination, and capability and that its great people, who number 15 million, alone can face any criminal force on earth in defence of our rights, honor, nation, and principles — must have realized by now, in light of the recent battles, that Saddam Husayn was not being conceited in his assessment of his people's capabilities and strength and that his assessment was not based on emotions and wishful thinking, but on a realistic and revolutionary calculation of the results. Furthermore, the Iraqi people have established this fact before the entire world by their actual deeds on the battlefield.

May our good martyrs rest in peace, and may God have mercy upon them, for they know, more than all others, the significance of such meanings, and they know the meaning of steadfastness without sovereignty and honor being undermined or free men and children being harmed.

Brothers, we have previously said you have broken the enemy's backbone on the battlefield, and the strongest links, both apparent and hidden, of the plot have been destroyed. O heroes of our valiant Armed Forces; O glorious Iraqi men and women: You must remember that some poison still remains in the fangs of the dying serpent, and that it is still capable of biting although its backbone has been broken. Further vigilance and preparedness is required so that we will crush the remains of the serpent, bury it, and hoist over its body the banner of official victory, God willing. You are capable of achieving this, for you have achieved what is greater and more difficult. The men in the forward defense positions, in no-man's land, and the men manning the forward barriers, must rememebr that after today the enemy will try to respond to your celebrations so as to assert his presence. Be careful, and then you will respond to his arrogance and completely convince him that he has been defeated and that he has no alternative other than to accept peace in accordance with the five principles we have repeatedly declared.

O zealous Iraqis. As you stand today at the pinnacle of glory, history will pass before you to record your great actions. Ask history and say to it: O history, have you seen or recorded in the past among the peoples of the world any greater actions and heroism than those achieved by the people of Iraq, and anyone more enduring, resilient, honorable, glorious, or more prepared to make sacrifices in defense of principles and sovereignty? Also ask history: Have we been negligent in doing what you want to record for the Iraqis and for the nation of the principles and sovereignty? Also ask history: Have we been negligent in doing what you want to record for the Iraqis and for the nation of the prophets and the Koran, the glorious Arab nation? History will reply: No, and a thousand times no. It will swear to you by the purity of glorious women, by the zeal of Iraqis and Arabs, and by your past, present, and future, and it will emphasize that that is its final opinion of you. Then say to history: Therefore, preserve this for us, before God and mankind, at present and in the future, in this life and in the hereafter. O history, spit on the plot that has been prepared against great Iraq and against the Arab nation. O history, spit on the faces of the parties to the plot, the evil men and traitors. Remember them and do not forget them, and place them in a different place in your annals. Pray with us that God will reward those vile evil men and those traitors with what they deserve on the day of judgment, and that God will damn them and will prevent them from doing evil, and that He will always make us victorious over them. God is great! May the lowly be defeated.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, 22 March 1987

Communiques, Reports Detail 19-23 March Fighting

Iranian Drone Downed

JN201724 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Communique No 2,609 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 20 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our victorious forces have inflicted more losses on the Khomeyniites, the Zionist agents.

The following is a summary of the activities of last night and today:

1. Our triumphant forces in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah continued to direct violent artillery and tank fire at enemy positions and at enemy personnel and vehicle movements and mortar emplacements, inflicting more losses on the scoundrels. They also killed 11 enemy personnel, destroyed 8 infantry positions and 1 shovel [preceding word in English], seized a bulldozer, and destroyed a number of ammunition dumps.

2. Through intensive fire barrages and capable combat actions, our brave units in the VII Army Corps sector inflicted on the enemy losses in personnel, equipment, and vehicles. Our forces also halted enemy engineering efforts and confused the movement of enemy units. They also destroyed five vehicles, three of which were loaded with pesonnel, killing many of their occupants, and they destroyed a shovel and a number of infantry positions.

3. Four enemy personnel were killed, two observation posts were destroyed, and five rifles and a quantity of equipment left by the enemy were seized in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan.

4. An SPG-9 gun was destroyed, its crew killed, and a number of infantry positions destroyed in the VI Army Corps sector east of Tigris.

5. At 1030 [0730 GMT] today one of our brave units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah shot down an enemy drone.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 March 1987

20-21 Mar Fighting Detailed

JN211733 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Communique No 2,610 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 March 1987]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted praising the Iraqi people's steadfastness and condemning the Iranian aggression] The following are the overall activities for last night and today:

1. In continuation of the Great Harvest operations of killing the Khomeyniites and destroying their weapons and equipment, our heroic units in the III Army Corps sector east of Basra have directed the fire of all their weapons at the enemy concentrations, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

They destroyed 1 tank and killed its occupants; destroyed 1 armored vehicle and killed its occupants; destroyed 2 shovels [preceding word in English]; destroyed 4 vehicles, damaged 4 others, and killed their scoundrel occupants; killed 19 enemy personnel in different areas of the sector; destroyed 6 infantry positions and killed a number of Khomeyniites in them; and destroyed 8 ammunition dumps.

2. The brave men of the VII Army Corps gave good support to the units of the III Army Corps, inflicting further losses on the aggressors. The soldiers of this Corps also damaged two shovels, destroyed two machine gun emplacements and killed their occupants, destroyed a number of infantry positions and killed a number of enemy personnel in them, destroyed two boats and killed two scoundrels, destroyed two observation posts and one shelter and killed their occupants, and destroyed three ammunition dumps.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 March 1987

Oil Field, Maritime Target Hit

JN221843 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Communique No 2,611 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God is great, and we thank him day and night. The year the enemies of God, humanity, and the agents of Zionism, whose consciences are devoid of everything except rancor, called the year of decisiveness has ended. These retarded and ignorant people have not lived their age, realized what the will of nations means, or understood that true strength does not lie in numbers, lies, suspect alliances, charlatanism, or evil intentions regardless of their size or means, but in right, truth, sincerity, noble intentions, and honorable objectives. The year of decisiveness has ended, the year in which the Zionist clique mistakenly believed it could find salvation and escape from its crises and even achieve a modest part of its ambitions and cause a strategic imbalance in its favor. This year ended in catastrophe for this clique when it tried to approach Basra, the city of cities, the target this clique set for its rancor. They did not reach or even approach Basra. Instead, they found a dam of men and their fire, the men of Iraq, whom history could not match in their belief, heroism, efficiency, adherence to land, commitment to virtue, and pride in their glorious Arab ancestors. How could they fail? They have been taught by their great leader Saddam Husayn and derived from him determination, courage, daring, fortitude, and loyalty to the homeland and nation.

It was truly a decisive year, but a decisiveness we wanted and not what the enemies had wanted. We drove hundreds of thousands of their scoundrels into hell, destroyed their arms, broke the back of their aggressive machine and economy, thwarted their intentions, and exposed them to everyone as liars, devoid of everything except morbid arrogance and ridiculous boasting. We have preserved our Basra proud with the waters of Shat al-'Arab, our determination supported by God, everyone of our valiant men, our revolution, and its achievements. We continue to live proudly under the most elite and deep-rooted of men, the most courageous during crises, and the most able in action and struggle, the great Saddam Husayn. We have triumphed, and the enemies have been defeated. The day of final victory is drawing near and within grasp. Victory comes only from God. Praise be to God who fends off rancor and fulfills His promise to the patient believers for He does not break His promise.

The following are the overall activities for last night and today:

1. At 0100 last night [2200 GMT on 21 March], our valiant Armed Forces fired with various weapons on enemy forward positions along the battlefronts accompanied by cries of God is

great, popular songs, slogans of long life to the great leader, Saddam Husayn, and prayers for him, for the homeland, and for the great victory. This came on the occasion of the end of the Persian year and the fall of the slogan of decisiveness. Our valiant officers and soldiers have affirmed that they will keep the pledge and that they are determined to crush the head of the serpent and destroy any reckless enemy attempt.

2. So that the Khomeyniite scoundrels may realize that we will not give them the opportunity to exploit their oil resources in aggression against our country, at 1500 today a number of heroic Air Force aircraft launched a successful, daring raid on the Ardeshir oil field. They fired their destructive bombs at this important oil field and managed to set fire to the field's platforms and left them a scattered pile of rubble. Moreover, at 0530 today, our brave aircraft delivered an accurate, effective hit on a large maritime target off the Iranian coast. After carrying out these two missions, all our aircraft returned to the homeland safely and triumphantly, praise be to God. May God bless the noble hawks for their glorious deeds.

3. Three heroic groups from our valiant units in the central sector launched three daring raids on three enemy concentrations opposite the sector. As is customary for the men of the II Army Corps, they attacked the scoundrels in their positions and delivered lightning, surprise, and destructive blows, killing a number of scoundrels and destroying their positions. Afterward, the three groups returned safely to their positions, praise be to God.

4. In addition to the concentrated blows delivered by heroic units in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah to the enemy positions opposite them, our units inflicted the following losses on the Khomeyniite scoundrels: They destroyed one tank, killed its crew, and damaged another two tanks; they destroyed one shovel [preceding word in English], damaged another two shovels, and killed or wounded nine scoundrels; they destroyed six vehicles and killed or wounded their occupants; they destroyed several infantry positions and arms emplacements and killed or wounded a number of enemy soldiers; they destroyed two ammunition depots.

5. Our able units in the VII Army Corps sector used various weapons to attack enemy positions and inflicted new losses on the aggressors through their concentrated blows. The units also attacked the enemy artillery and sources of fire, managed to silence them, halted the enemy engineering works, and destroyed or damaged some of its equipment.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 March 1987

Nowruz Oil Field Hit

JN230942 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
0923 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 23 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To further deprive the Zionist rulers of Iran of their oil resources, which they use for their evil and aggressive purposes against our country, scores of our gigantic Air Force aircraft carried out two attacks on the Nowruz oil field at 0900 [0600 GMT] today, pouring their devastating bombs, accurately hitting their targets, and shattering the oil field platforms. Our aircraft then returned safely to the homeland in God's care and protection. God bless our brave Air Force — commanders, hawks, officers, and men.

[Dated] 23 March 1987

Cyrus Oil Field Hit

JN231240 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1212 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Iraqi military spokesman's statement dated 23 March 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To further destroy the economic pillars of the Zionist Iranian regime used for aggression against our country, our gigantic Air Force aircraft dealt another successful blow to the enemy oil installations. At 0930 [0630 GMT] today, scores of our aircraft carried out a devastating blow to the Cyrus oil field, setting the oil field installations and platforms ablaze. The brave hawks of the sky then returned with their aircraft safely and victorious to the homeland, in God's care and protection.

[Dated] 23 March 1987

King Husayn Makes Statement on Return From Egypt

JN221933 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and his delegation returned home this evening following a brief working visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt during which his majesty held talks with His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on relations between the two fraternal countries and developments in the Middle East. His majesty was accorded an official send-off in the Presidential Palace court. The band played the royal Jordanian and Egyptian anthems. His majesty then shook hands with the senior officials seeing him off: the Consultative Council speaker, the prime minister, the prime minister's deputies, the ministers, senior officials, and the Jordanian ambassador in Cairo. Before departing Cairo, His Majesty King Husayn said the following to reporters:

[Begin recording — in progress]...visit at the present time. I cannot say anything at this time. There has been no scheduled visit at this particular time.

[Unidentified reporter][Word indistinct] the Iraq-Iran war which is witnessing an escalation...

[King Husayn, interrupting] Naturally, it is an opportunity for which I am always eager. It has allowed me to meet with my great, dear brother and to discuss all important issues.

[Reporter] [Word indistinct] Resolutions 242 and 338. What is your majesty's stand?

[King Husayn] Our stand is clear and firm. We demand that an international conference be convened under UN auspices with the attendance of the five permanent Security Council member states and all parties to the conflict, including the PLO. Thank you. Naturally, regarding this important part of our issues and problems, we were able to discuss all aspects of the latest developments with his excellency the president. We also discussed all other important issues, including the Iraq-Iran war. Our stand is clear concerning our support for Iraq. We hope this war will end soon on bases that secure its termination and an end to the bloodshed. We also hope this war will stop at the internationally recognized borders, that the exchange of POW's takes place, and that negotiations and talks begin to clear the atmosphere of all the causes that have led to our shouldering this tragedy for such a long time. We support Iraq. [end recording]

Receiving his majesty in Amman were His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the ministers, and senior civilian and military officials. Returning home with his majesty were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i; Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim; Court Minister 'Adnan abu 'Awdah; Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; and Foreign Minister Tahir al- Masri.

Senate President Meets USSR Institute Delegation

JN211708 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Amman, 21 Mar (PETRA-JNA) — Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi has stressed that an international conference is the ideal formula for achieving just and durable peace in the Middle East.

During a meeting with the delegation of the Africa Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences at the Parliament, he said Jordan — under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn — has been exerting intensive efforts in the international arena to hold an [international peace] conference. He also referred to efforts resulting in the recent EEC statement in Brussels, which supports the convocation of such a conference.

The Senate president pointed out that Jordan adopted a view stipulating that the Arab-Israeli dispute can be solved with UN supervision and the participation of the five UN Security Council member states, including all sides concerned in the dispute. He added this position stems from Jordan's adherence to UN Resolutions 242 and 338 and international resolutions dealing with the dispute in the region. He added this position is also due to the fact that continuation of the Palestinian question, the crux of the dispute, without a solution threatens world peace and stability inasmuch as it threatens regional countries and maintains an endless whirlpool of dispute and war.

He reviewed the continuous Israeli aggression against Arab countries, the occupation of territories belonging to Arab countries in addition to the Palestinian soil, and the continuation of expansionist policy. He also reviewed Zionist inhuman practices in the occupied Arab territories based on dealing blows to freedom, controlling territories, evicting legitimate landowners through unfounded justifications, changing the demographic situation, and jeopardizing the Arab identity.

The Senate president lauded the existing Jordanian-Soviet relations, which are continuously developing in accordance with the instructions of His Majesty King Husayn and as a result of the Soviet position which supports Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian question, and the agreement between the two countries on a number of international issues. He also discussed the role of parliament in Jordanian political life, the democratic march, the Jordanian people's adherence to legitimacy, and their respect for the Constitution, in addition to their aspirations.

Aleksey Vasilyev, deputy director of the Africa Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, praised the firm relations between the two countries and expressed hope these relations will continue to develop in the interest of the two peoples. He said the Soviet Union highly respects King Husayn's balanced policy, his effective role in Arab and international arenas which is appreciated by world leaders, and his efforts to attain a just and comprehenisve peace in the Middle East.

He added the Soviet Union has continuously supported Arab causes and that this position stems from its knowledge of just Arab positions and from the fact that Arabs are waging a struggle for their existence, their independence, and the integrity of their territories.

He noted that the delegation visited Jordan to become acquainted with the Jordanian position, with achievements attained in political, economic, and social fields, and with the history of past cultures in Jordan, since this delegation represents Soviet scientists and researchers.

Concluding, he highly praised His Majesty King Husayn's positions on important international issues. He said King Husayn's article, which was published by the Soviet magazine *Modern Times*, included his majesty's positive views on the arms race, the elimination of nuclear weapons, and the need to keep space free of destructive weapons and to make earth secure and peaceful.

Official Meets British Foreign Office Delegation

JN222051 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Amman, 22 Mar (PETRA) — Dr Ahmad Qatanani, under secretary of the Occupied Territories Affairs Ministry, received in his office yesterday a delegation from the Department for Overseas Development in the British Foreign Office, currently visiting Jordan.

During the meeting, the delegation reviewed its concepts of ways Britain can contribute to financing a number of projects in the economic and social development program for the occupied territories. The British ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

The British delegation toured the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and became acquainted with their citizens' need for development projects. Britain announced it will contribute 2.5 million pounds sterling to finance a number of projects in the development program.

AL-DUSTUR Criticizes Reagan's News Conference

JN221356 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Mar 87 pp 23, 28

[News Analysis: "Reagan's Speech and His New Confessions"]

[Text] In his news conference yesterday morning, U.S. President Reagan spoke again about the suspect arms deal with Iran. This news conference was not originally devoted to this issue. It appeared as if there was a scenario that sought to preoccupy this conference with daily affairs and domestic issues of interest to the American people. However, the most important issue — the scandal involving arms shipments [to Iran] — dominated the approximately 1/2-hour news conference. We have the following remarks to make about the conference.

1. President Reagan appeared confused and contradicted himself despite the coolness with which he fielded the questions raised, as news agencies reported. He acknowledged he made a mistake in dealing with the Iranian blackmail schemes to bring about the release of hostages, while simultaneously emphasizing that two more U.S. hostages would have been freed had the scandal remained secret. He expressed regret for this, while stating the arms deal was not initiated to secure the release of hostages, but rather to help to develop good relations with the moderates in Iran, thus helping them become influential figures who can help bring this war to an end. The president did not say how the war could end while [he was] fanning its fires with large quantities of advanced and sophisticated weapons. He admitted he had believed the arms shipments would be symbolic, that they would entail only limited quantities of low quality weapons, and that the United States had succumbed to all of Iran's demands when the bargaining process began.

2. President Reagan admitted that Israel was behind the arms deal, saying he had previously not told the truth when he denied any Israeli role in the affair, adding he did not know how this mistake was made. He had earlier emphasized that he neither knew nor recalled when and how he had approved the suspect arms deal, reiterating he had forgotten this part of the affair. The part of the affair regarding the cover-up of Israel's role was aimed at not embarrassing Tehran's rulers, who constitute the third party to the conspiracy hatched by Israel, the country that got the United States involved in the whole process. Israel's objectives in this regard are as clear as the nature of this tripartite U.S.-Iranian-Israeli alliance.

3. U.S. public opinion polls show that only 27 percent of the American people believe President Reagan will personally make important decisions during the remaining years of his presidency. These polls also show that President Reagan will be the third in importance in his administration. The polls show that 31 percent of the people questioned believe Baker will be the man capable of making the important decisions, while only 29 percent of those questioned said the government will be capable of making important decisions. These polls also show that 41 percent of the Americans questioned believe President Reagan should resign if he knew about the diversion of funds to the contra gangs. They also show that 54 percent of the sample questioned believe President Reagan is not giving due attention to his job.

However, the scandal snowballs day by day, exposing new aspects. President Reagan is incapable of tackling this scandal and time will not heal the wound that has been opened. Despite the fact that there are forces, headed by the Zionist lobby, that support President Reagan, the fact remains that this scandal has weakened him a lot and that every passing day witnesses new confessions about mistakes made by Reagan as well as a readiness on his part to make concessions to the U.S. and world public opinion. This scandal may not result in ending President Reagan's term in office nor in toppling him, but it has removed many masks, cut Reagan's role down to size, and parlayzed him. This scandal will remain the main issue until the end of 1988.

Radio Claims Syrians To Release Some Hostages

NC211812 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] According to informed sources, Syria, in order to restore some of its lost credibility, is preparing to release some hostages as part of a theatrical show of a military-intelligence character.

According to an informed security source in West Beirut, the Syrian occupation army is preparing to storm the quarters of Al-Khandaq al-Ghamiq and Al-Bastah [in West Beirut], where there are Hizballah centers and cells. The Syrian Army will publicize its entry into these areas to give the impression that the foreign hostages which it will release were present there, while, in fact, these hostages are currently in the hands of the Syrians who originally kidnapped them.

However, it seems that the Syrians are afraid of Hizballah's reaction in West Beirut to this prepared scenario. This is particularly true because the Syrians are mobilizing their forces under the command of Colonel Hisham al-Mu'alla, who was responsible for the Hamah massacre. Col al-Mu'alla has established his center in the building that acted as the U.S. Marines Headquarters, which lies on the airport perimeter. It seems Col al-Mu'alla's star is rising at the expense of Ghazi Kan'an [chief of Syrian military intelligence in Lebanon].

Amal Declares Release of Saudi National

NC201520 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] The Amal Movement succeeded in setting free Saudi national Khalid Dib this afternoon. Dib normally resides in [Beirut's] southern suburb and was kidnapped on 26 January 1987. The movement held a news conference at the office of Syrian Colonel 'Abd al-Salam al-Daghistani at 1530 today, during which it declared his release.

Israel Raids Sidon Areas; Casualties Reported

NC231229 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Israel launched a new air raid on Darb al-Sim and Jabal al-Halib in Sidon this morning. One person was killed and three others were wounded as a result of this attack.

Two Israeli figher-bombers, escorted by four fighter planes, carried out two successive raids against Jabal al-Halib and Darb al-Sim in Sidon at 0630 today. The raiding planes dropped heavy rockets that explode without making any noise. Antiaircraft guns confronted the enemy aircraft.

According to a Fatah source, a four-storied building that houses Fatah offices was completely destroyed during the raid and two of its fighters wre wounded. Another Palestinian source declared one commando had been killed and three others wounded. This source noted that the state of alert in effect among the Palestinian fighters since the penultiamte Israeli aggression has reduced the number of casualties resulting from such attacks.

Israel Continues To Stop Ships at Sidon, Tyre

NC201220 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Israel is continuing its aggressive actions in the air and on the sea. Enemy Israeli troops persist in surrounding and searching the commerical ships that enter the Sidon and Tyre ports.

According to our correspondent in Sidon, enemy gunboats are still surrounding commercial ships and then conducting search operations. He also has learned that Israeli gunboats stopped a ship loaded with chemicals and fertilizers earlier this week. A thorough search of the vessel was undertaken before it was allowed to enter Sidon port. [passage omitted]

Israeli Casualties in Resistance Attack in South

NC201726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Resistance men detonated an explosive device when an Israeli infantry patrol was passing near Kafr Rumman this morning. All the patrol's personnel were either killed or wounded. In a statement issued to this effect, the Lebanese National Resistance Front said the Martyrs 'Adil Zaynab and Zaynab and Salam Jabir group detonated 60 kg of TNT as a ten-man enemy patrol was passing east of Kafr Rumman at 0900 today. The patrol was advancing in the area to carry out criminal acts against our steadfast kinfolk. A 30-minute clash then ensued between the resistance group and the remnants of the Israeli patrol, as a result of which the patrol's personnel were killed or wounded.

Israel Reportedly Brings in Reinforcements

NC211934 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] According to reports received from the occupied Jazzin area today, the Israeli occupation forces brought in fresh mechanized reinforcements from the occupied land [Israel] and deployed them in the Israeli positions along the Jazzin-Kafr Huna-al-'Ayshiyah line. The reports state the reinforcements included 30 half-track vehicles and three field guns. Members of the agent Lahd militia left their positions in this area and handed them over to the Israeli occupation forces. The reinforcements were brought in after the resistance fighters' operations against Israeli and agent Lahd militia positions intensified and Israel threatened to retaliate against these operations.

Israeli Forces Ambush Resistance Patrol

NC221823 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] A reconnaissance patrol mounted by the Islamic resistance in western Al-Biqa' has been attacked in an Israeli ambush as it was moving toward the Al-Ahmadiyah hill. A fierce battle ensued, in which the enemy used Merkava tanks on the Al-Ahmadiyah hill and a large number of vehicles and troops. The

Mujahidin hit the Al-Ahmadiyah position with RPG fire. The resistance group returned to base after two of its members suffered moderate wounds and two more were determined to be missing on the battlefield.

Following the clash, Israeli forces directed concentrated shellfire at Qilya and Dallafah. The enemy also fired flares over the Al-Litani valley and the forests of Mayfadun Mountain.

5 Hizballah Gunmen Injured in Clash With Israelis

NC222040 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] According to a military spokesman for the fundamentalists in Hasbayya, five Hizballah gunmen have been injured in clashes in the Hasbayya area, the first of their kind to take place in the northern border region of the security strip. The injured men were taken to Jubb Jannin Hospital. The fundamentalist source noted that Hizballah fired Katyusha rockets at an Israeli position in (Kafr Kawkaba), striking the target.

Israelis Direct Israeli Artillery on Villages

NC222104 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Excerpt] According to the latest security reports received from the south, the villages of Yatar, Kafra, Jba', and Hasbayya have been coming under artillery fire. AFP reported that five people were wounded east of Hasbayya as a result of the artillery shelling. The agency also reported frequent flights by Israeli warplanes over the south, particularly Sidon. This was accompanied by the appearance of a number of Israeli gunboats sailing off the southern coast between Al-naqurah and Al-Awwali. [passage omitted]

UNIFIL Commander Terms Security Strip 'Obstacle'

NC201855 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] UNIFIL Commander Gustav Haegglund has said the area under Israeli control in southern Lebanon, the so-called security strip, is a great obstacle to UNIFIL's efforts. Speaking at a reception held by the Norwegian logistics contingent in Tibnin, Haegglund added: So long as a foreign force is occupying the land, resistance to this occupation will continue.

Presidential Delegation Returns From Damascus

NC210931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The members of the Lebanese presidential delegation returned to Beirut this morning following 2 days of discussion with Syrian officials on internal political reforms. The delegation is scheduled to return to Syria on Thursday [26 March] to resume these talks.

Birri on Junblatt's Remarks, Camps War

NC201848 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri responded today to Walid Junblatt's recent statement. He said that if the Amal Movement had really sought the road to sectarianism, it did so for the sake of nationalism and not as the others did, who exploited nationalism for the sake of sectarianism. He added that the Shi'ites have never acted as border guards for Israel. On the contrary, they have always allied themselves with the nationalists, and Kamal Junblatt was foremost among these nationalists at a time when the policy on the mountain was not one of partition.

Commenting on the camps war, Minister Birri said the crucial and final solution for this issue lies in the implementation of the agreement for the withdrawal [of the Palestinians] from east of Sidon. He added that the siege imposed on the Palestinian camps will be lifted on the same day as the withdrawal. He accused the Palestinians of preventing UNRWA trucks from entering the Shatila camp 2 days ago. He expressed the belief that 'Arafat does not want supplies introduced into the camp until a resolution by the Security Council on the so-called war of starvation against the camps is issued.

Junblatt Responds to Remarks

NC202051 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] We have received a statement from the office of PSP leader Walid Junblatt, in which he responds to the remarks made by Nabih Birri today. Birri said that if the Amal Movement has any bent toward sectarianism it is for honorable nationalist purposes and this is better than using nationalism for sectarian purposes as others do. The Shi'ites, Birri noted, always sided with the nationalists, chief of whom was Kamal Junblatt. This was particularly true when the [Druze] mountain was not seeking partition.

Rebutting Birri, Junblatt said: As usual, we have a vintage Birri peacock-like statement. God bless the soul of Shaykh Pierre [al-Jumayyil], who posed as patron of the Palestinians while his [Phalangist] movement spared their camps no destruction. Birri's claim to nationalism should be referred to the refugees who escaped the south and the southern Beirut suburb, as well as to the widows and orphans of his feats in this field, the bereaved relatives of Dib al-Jasim, Hasan al-Sabbagh, and Husayn Muruwwah.

I am reminding Birri that there are many who say they repent and will devote themselves to the just national causes. We ask his excellency to calm down, to think carefully and deal prudently with the issues that concern our destiny. This would be better than indulging in rhetoric. The people have already had enough of such diatribes.

Junblatt concluded by saying: In the end, I would like to congratulate the minister of justice on the safety of Bakr al-Damanhuri and Khalid al-Dib, a testimony to the efficacy of his security apparatus.

Amal Answers Junblatt Remarks

NC211817 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The war of words between Amal and the PSP escalated today. In a tit-for-tat response, the Amal Movement threatened to open the file on the festive parties attended by the PSP and the Israelis, as well as the official delegations exchanged between the two sides.

The Amal Movement recalled the expulsion of the Christians from the mountain, where roads were paved with the rubble of 65 villages, including their churches and shrines, 65 villages which no longer exist.

An Amal Movement information source said today: If Brother Nabih Birri is defending the Palestinians with his guns, why has his excellency the minister of works [Walid Junblatt] defended the southern suburb, its supposed ally, with his guns, which are positioned on the mountain? It seems that whoever has such an ally does not need any enemies.

The statement added: If Brother Nabih Birri is against the Palestinians, why are others with the Israelis? If the need arises, we will open this file on the festive parties held both during the day and at night [between the PSP and the Israelis], and the official delegations exchanged between the two sides.

The statement said: Junblatt's statement mentioned the names of some martyrs, as if the Amal Movement were responsible for their deaths, but the Amal Movement considers the attacks on these martyrs as an attack on the movement itself.

The statement asked: Did [George] Hawi [Lebanese Communist Party secretary general] recommend this, or is it a courtesy gesture on the eve of his visit to the Soviet Union, that the minister of works is defending the communists by leveling accusations at random? Here we mention that Junblatt's great security apparatus was responsible for protecting Terry Waite and the three people kidnapped from the Central Bank. This security apparatus was also responsible for the split in the Syrian Social Nationalist Party.

Finally, the statement stressed that Nabih Birri is ready to put himself at the disposal of a judicial investigation on the accusations leveled against him. Can the minister of works hide the roads which were paved with the rubble of 65 villages, including their churches, shrines, and houses, which were wiped from the face of the earth? We add to this the rich orchards in Al-Damur and Bsaba, which were distributed among his supporters.

Junblatt Departs for Damascus Talks 22 March

NC221135 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1115 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] PSP leader Minsiter Walid Junblatt left for Damascus today to hold talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on current security and political developmetns in Lebanon.

Previews Talks in Damascus

NC221830 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] In a radio interview, Walid Junblatt has said: The working papers submitted in Damascus are sectarian, and we have major reservations about them. Each new sectarian paper and each new sectarian solution heralds new sectarian wars.

Junblatt described the regime's positions as maneuvers, and called for the expansion of the security plan to cover everyone. He voiced support for consolidation of the truce, as this will help the country as a whole. Junblatt also said he will talk to Syrian officials in Damascus about the future of political action in Beirut, which is necessary to the capital's survival.

Junblatt Offers To Close Al-Jiyah, Khaldah Ports

NC221306 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Excerpt] PSP leader Walid Junblatt has stated: The challenges that await us in the educational, medical, developmental, environmental, political, and security fields are big ones. They did not exist at the time a decision was made, in the presence of honorable guests, to establish a civilian administration in 1983. The great martyr Shaykh Halim Taqiyy al-Din was one of us.

Junblatt added: The object of this administration was not a partitionist one. It did not seek to establish an independent canton. The mountain and the Iqlim are part of Lebanon. We had to set up such an administration to provide guarantees for citizens in the wake of the great destructive war that had left heavy material and human losses. We wish the governor and others were present with us. We have coordinated our actions with the governor in the past, and we want to continue do so to benefit a little from the state's resources.

Junblatt affirmed: We reiterate the stand which we declared during the war; namely, that it is necessary to establish a national administration throughout the national areas — in Beirut, Tripoli, Sidon, the mountain, and the Iqlim — to control undisciplined people, particularly smugglers. We were forced to open special ports because the legal one in the eastern area is controlled by the militias.

We have fallen into a whirlpool that will bring ruination to everyone if it is allowed to continue. The need for a little money prompted our actions. Naturally, the mafia of smugglers entered the picture, and the nationalists and smugglers consequently became jumbled together. We demand that those responsible for security in West Beirut put an end to smuggling. We are prepared to close the Al-Jiyah and Khaldah ports if this will stop the smuggling and increase the state's revenues, with the condition that these revenues are justly distributed. The civilian administration is not partitionist in nature. It is a political administration, one we hope will be expanded to include the south, Sidon, and Tripoli through the participation of political figures. We hope we will be united on a national, secular, and democratic basis. We hope you will share our worries and help us, for the burdens are heavy.

Junblatt made these remarks in a speech he delivered at the second general conference of the civilian administration that opened at the tourist complex in B'aqlin at 1000 today. [passage omitted]

Karami Urges Al-Jumayyil To Work for Solution

NC211340 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Excerpt] In a statement issued after yesterday's meeting of the Northern Coordination Committee, Prime Minister Rashid Karami called on President Amin al-Jumayyil and the Christians to resolve their affairs and abandon their reluctant, maneuvering approach. He urged them to go ahead with the search for a political solution to the Lebanese crisis, stop making efforts to gain time, put an end to dependence on foreign forces, and sincerely and frankly cooperate with fraternal Syria, which is very anxious to uphold the unity of Lebanon, its people, and institutions.

Prime Minister Karami referred to the relationship between the economic and political situations. He demanded that the forces that control the state's resources, ports, and public utilities abandon their role, which has contributed and is still contributing to the impoverishment of the national Treasury and is depriving it of its income. If this is done, the state will be able to fulfill its obligations to the people and to various institutions.

Prime Minister Karami said the high price of the dollar was linked to the political crisis and the fluctuations in the positions of the other [Christian] side on a political solution to the crisis. As a result, the people distrusted their political and economic system. He hoped a solution would be found soon so that the price of the dollar may come down and the Lebanese pound regain its glory. In this way, economic and living conditions may improve.

Karami further called on all parties to work for the reopening of Beirut International Airport. This vital artery, which links Lebanon with the outside world, must get back into operation, he said. [passage omitted]

Syrians Arrest 5 PSP Members After Rocket Attack

NC211759 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Security sources have told the Voice of Lebanon that Syrian forces arrested five PSP members in Al-Dawhah [south of Beirut]. This move followed investigations into an incident in which a LAW rocket was fired at a Syrian post in the area. Two Syrian personnel were wounded in the incident, one of them seriously.

Lebanese Front Delegation Briefs Patriarch Sfayr

NC201119 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] A Lebanese Front delegation composed of former President Camille Sham'un, Phalangist Party leader Dr George Sa'adah, and Maronite League Chairman Shakir Abu Sulayman met with Patriarch Sfayr in Bkirki this morning. The conferees discussed the current political situation in light of the ninth round of Lebanese-Syrian negotiations.

After the meeting, Sham'un stated: We visited Patriarch Sfayr as part of the consultations now underway. We discussed recent developments, and noted there was agreement in views on all topics.

Asked his opinion about applying the security plan in the southern suburb [of Beirut], Sham'un replied: This is doubtful. With regard to greater Beirut, Sham'un affirmed: There is no greater Beirut. There is a Beirut identified by its administrative boundaries and there is the Jabal Lubnan area. Security is being established on this basis.

Tehran Reports Beirut Friday Prayer Ceremonies

LD211334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Friday prayer sermons were delivered yesterday in various Lebanese cities. The Friday prayers there again invited people to strive for unity.

Sheykh Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Islamic Unification Movement of Lebanon, in the course of the Friday prayer sermons staged in Tripoli's Amin Mosque, in connection with current political discussion, said: The satans and criminals will never strive to remove the roots of corruption and crimes in society; we Muslims must not place our destinies in the hands of these improper groups.

Shaykh Sa'ban then referred to the issue of hostage-taking in Lebanon. He said: If those who condemn hostage-taking had not been first to indulge in this practice, then they would not have been caught up in it now. Continuing, he argued: Where was the West at the time when terrorism drove away the Palestinian nation from its homeland? And where were the Europeans when that very nation was not protected from Zionist terrorism, even when it was in a state of homelessness. Even now this nation is not free from Zionist terrorists.

Al-'Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, holding Friday prayer sermons yesterday in Imam Ridha, in the southern part of Beirut, gave warnings in connection with the sale of land to Zionists in the south of Lebanon. He said: News has reached us that Zionist occupiers are buying land to build new roads in the south of Lebanon, and it appears that some money has been paid to the owners of these lands in the course of these deals. He added: We warn people not to fall into the trap of these new plans by the Zionists and not to repeat the Palestine tragedy in the south of Lebanon.

Talks With Lebanon Resume 20 March in Damascus

JN201902 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Lebanese-Syrian talks resumed in Damascus today. The Lebanese presidential delegation led by Elie Salim met with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. Prior to the evening session of talks, Elie Salim said the talks are proceeding along the correct path. However, he declined to give any details.

Although the negotiations are proceeding along the correct path, there are still many obstacles that have not been removed, such as the powers of the [Lebanese] president and the abolition of political sectarianism.

The Lebanese delegation leader's optimism notwithstanding, the plan for political reform in Lebanon may require further talks before an agreement is reached and before a date for a summit between Presidents al-Asad and al-Jumayyil is fixed. If the meeting should take place, it is expected to consolidate such an agreement.

The great optimism that has prevailed over the Lebanese-Syrian talks for some time, specifically since the summit in Kuwait between Presidents al-Asad and al-Jumayyil and prior to the entry of Syrian forces into West Beirut, has begun to diminish somewhat, but, of course, without disappearing altogether.

'Positive' Results Reached

JN210746 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0600 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] The ninth round of official Syrian-Lebanese talks ended last night following noticeable progress and further positive results.

The Lebanese presidential delegation comprising political adviser Elie Salim, Army Intelligence Chief Brigadier General Simon Qassis, and legal adviser Nicholas Nasr, returned to Damascus late Thursday and the first round of talks was held that night between the Lebanese side and the Syrian side, which comprised Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Brig Gen Ghazi Kan'an, chief of the Syrian forces' security and surveillance apparatus in Lebanon. During the talks, the Syrian side was briefed on the latest steps taken by the Lebanese side.

The second and main round of talks was held on Friday evening. It lasted more than 5 hours and continued past midnight. The Lebanese delegation's sources described the results as extremely positive and successful. All the unresolved problems were overcome, except the sharing of executive powers between the Lebanese president and the cabinet. These sources say the great progress made is shown by the solution of the problem of fixing a date for ending political sectarianism in Lebanon. This solution does not envisage a firm date but includes a number of programmed procedures that would enable the Lebanese parties concerned to realize this aim through direct talks among themselves and by reaching an agreement on the number of meetings and their dates.

On the special relations between Syria and Lebanon, the agreement clearly stipulated that Lebanon is a country of Arab affiliation and identity and is tied to Syria by special relations governed by connections of history, geography, and kinship. These relations will materialize when official, long-term bilateral agreements are reached in various fields defined by the two fraternal countries.

My sources add that the only remaining obstacle is related to the sharing of executive powers. This will be discussed next Thursday when the 10th session is held in Damascus. Meanwhile, both sides will inform the parties concerned about these details. President al-Jumayyil will continue his consultations with the parties concerned in East Beirut, and Syria, the arbitrator and mediator among the Lebanese sides, will inform the other side of the results reached and will convey observations and opinions to the Lebanese delegation during the 10th session.

Amid this positive and encouraging atmosphere, the Lebanese delegation left for Beirut this morning while affirming the success of its talks and efforts and the good atmosphere now permeating the talks and relations between the two countries. The aim is to solve the remaining point in the hope that the best is yet to come.

Sources Say Results 'Exaggerated'

JN221303 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] The Lebanese [presidential] delegation returned to Beirut yesterday after holding the ninth round of talks in Damascus on constitutional reforms. Delegation sources had said the talks were positive and achieved some progress. However, Syrian sources said today that the talks did not achieve any progress. The sources were anxious to clarify the Syrian stand. Here is a dispatch from Louis Faris from Damascus:

[Begin recording] [Faris] I have learned from Syrian Foreign Ministry sources that the optimism shown by some sources on the results of the ninth round of talks are exaggerated. Syrian Foreign Ministry officials affirmed that no measurable progress was achieved in resolving the two problems of power sharing and the abolition of sectariansim, and that reports that the Syrian side gave up the idea of fixing a time period for the abolition of political sectarianism is totally untrue.

The Syrian Foreign Ministry sources added that Syria, which is making great efforts to help Lebanon, is carrying out fraternal efforts to bring the views of the various Lebanese sides closer without entertaining any thoughts of replacing any of these sides.

Syrian Foreign Ministry circles expect Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's representatives to return to Damascus on 26 March with clear ideas and specific formulas to resolve the two problems of power sharing and the abolition of sectarianism in Lebanon. [end recording]

Radio on U.S. View of International Conference

JN211348 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Administration officials make statements on the Middle East problem every now and then in which they intentionally pretend to be trying to activate a peace process in the region. In their recent statements, these officials unstintedly used the term international conference when speaking about the region's crisis and the U.S. Administration's intentions in the Middle East.

The successive U.S. statements on the Middle East have become a trend that reveals a plan to express U.S. interest in the Middle East in an attempt to polish the U.S. Administration's image after the connected series of scandals in Washington placed the facts about the U.S. Administration's policy and morality before U.S. and international public opinion.

What is important is not that the U.S. Administration is trying to distract the world's attention from U.S. scandals; rather, what is really important is the actual background of the U.S. talks about peace, the peace process, and the international conference. Our experience with the U.S. Administration has made alertness a must and has made it absolutely necessary for one to translate the U.S. phrases from the well-known language of world public opinion and the international community into the special language of the U.S. Administration. For instance, when the U.S. Adminstration talks about peace in the Middle East, it means granting legitimacy to the fait accompli of the Israeli aggression on Arab territory and forcing the Arabs to accept this fait accompli. This means the Americans want the Arabs to surrender to Israel and concede its aggression and annexation of their terrritory and its plans to establish a greater Israel, described in the Torah as extending from the Nile to the Euphrates.

When U.S. officials talk about negotiations, they do not mean respect for the UN Charter principles, which oppose aggression, annexation, and the use of force to solve conflicts; they mean that the Arabs should renounce their rights to work for the implementation of the UN Charter's principles, and should begin direct negotiations with the Israeli aggressors from a position of weakness and accept the results of their aggression.

When U.S. officials talk about the international conference, one of the UN demands, they do not refer to a genuine international conference based on UN resolutions and UN Charter principles, but to a superficial conference that will be a framework to force certain Arab sides to begin direct, capitulatory negotiations with Israel that are not based on the two conditions of just peace; namely, Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights.

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter says the Reagan administration is inclined to use and deal with military force rather than diplomacy, that it has lost the initiative in the Middle East. It is not only the Arabs who feel the U.S. Administration has lost its possible role of dealing with the Middle East as an honest arbitrator, a sincere broker, or a postman who does not forge the contents of the letters or tamper with them.

Naturally, Carter's statements about the Reagan administration's mistakes in the Middle East do not absolve the Reagan administration of its mistakes but prove — through a major U.S. figure — that Syria's criticism of U.S. policy is correct and realistic. The greatest weakness of this policy is that it is an Israeli and not a U.S. policy.

Al-Shar' Receives Support for Terrorism Meeting

JN222047 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has received letters from the foreign ministers of the USSR, Bulgaria, DPRK, Vienna [as heard], CSSR, Romania, SFRY, and Cuba in which they expressed on behalf of their governments support for President al-Asad's call for a UN-sponsored international conference to define terrorism and to draw a distinction between it and peoples' liberation struggles.

The Fifth ICO Summit in Kuwait unanimously supported the president's initiative and urged the convocation of a UN-supervised international conference to examine international terrorism and distinguish between it and peoples' struggles to liberate their land. Al-Shar' has received letters from foreign ministers of a number of other countries indicating their interest in the Syrian initiative and a determination to look at it positively.

Gorbachev Links Renewed Relations to Conference

TA220853 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Mar 87 pp 1,4

[Report by Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpts] Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has promised to change the policy on Israel's demand that diplomatic relations be renewed when the matter of the international conference becomes timely. *Ha'aretz* has learned that a report sent to Jerusalem following a meeting recently between Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and Gorbachev says the latter guaranteed that the conditions Israel is putting forth for the incorporation of the Soviet Union in the international conference will be no obstacle.

In addition to the matter of diplomatic relations, Israel raised the condition of a change in Soviet emigration policy. The Soviets recently committed themselves, publicly and in diplomatic talks, to greatly increase the number of exit visas for Jews. These issues will also be discussed in this week's planned meetings between Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir and the Soviet ambassador to the United Nations. The meeting is due to be held at the UUnited Nations in New York. [passage omitted]

Jerusalem is keeping a close watch on the expected meeting between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn, following Yasir 'Arafat's statement that the PLO does not have to participate in an international conference. Shim'on Peres, deputy prime minister and foreign minister attributes great importance to both this statement and the meeting between the leaders of Jordan and Egypt. Those close to him said these developments are encouraging him to adhere to his stand on the issue of the international conference and it is expected that the argument between the Alignment and the Likud over this matter will be reopened this week. [passage omitted]

USSR 'Piling Obstacles'

TA230555 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] The Soviet Union is piling obstacles on the road to an international conference. A meeting took place in Washington a few days ago between a senior Soviet diplomat and a senior U.S. State Department diplomat, in which the Soviet stance on the question of the international conference was outlined. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'ami has learned the details of the conversation from U.S. sources, who assessed that the Soviets were closing the door on the international conference.

[Begin Ben-'ami recording] The Soviet diplomat voiced a clear stance regarding the international conference and the Soviet role in such a conference. The Soviets, he said, believe the superpowers should have a significant role in such a conference. The USSR is demanding that an initial preparatory conference be held by the five permanent UN Security Council members, excluding the Middle East parties concerned. The Soviets are demanding that every agreement reached by the bilateral geographic committees which will be set up be subject to the approval of the conference plenum. The Palestinian issue, according to the USSR, will be discussed in the international conference plenum, and the Soviet Union is insisting that the PLO participate in the conference.

The U.S. official asked his Soviet interlocutor about Israel's conditions for Soviet participation in an international conference. The Soviet responded that Moscow rejects the Israeli demand for renewed diplomatic relations as a condition for Soviet participation. The Soviet formula stipulates a conference first; only then can the possibility of renewing relations be discussed.

Incidentally, at the same time that this conversation took place in Washington a few days ago, a message reached Jerusalem from the United States containing U.S. clarifications on lowering the profile of the political initiative in the Middle East. The United States does not want to intervene in internal Israeli politics; as is known, the international conference is a topic of dispute between the two political blocs. As a result, Washington decided not to send Richard Murphy to the region for the time being, and to refer those asking about the U.S. stance to remarks by President Reagan, who told Prime Minister Shamir during the latter's visit to Washington that the United States would examine every road to negotiations, including an international conference. The question in Jerusalem now concerns the nature of the political process in our region. [end recording]

Shamir Office Communique Issued

TA201820 Jerusalem Government Press Office in English 11 Mar 87

["Communique by the Spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office: 'Why No International Conference'" — GPO headline]

[Text] **I. Historical Background**

1. Israel Governments have always held that the only way to achieve peace is via direct negotiations with no prior conditions. We insisted on this because in our eyes, the very readiness of an Arab government to negotiate with us directly, attested to its readiness to accept Israel's existence and its readiness to assume public responsibility for the outcome of such negotiations.

2. The idea of convening an international conference for peace in the Middle East was floated in the past by the Soviet Union, as well as by Arab states and other elements holding similar stands. For our part, we say an international conference as an Arab excuse to evade direct negotiations with and recognition of Israel.

3. A sovereign state can never agree to allow its fate to be decided by strangers, unless it has no choice in the matter. Only states that have been defeated on the field of battle have assented to this. Indeed, international history knows of no case of a state agreeing to have its fate determined by an international conference — with the exception of Czechoslovakia, which had no choice but to do so following a military defeat.

4. It is true that in the past Israel Governments have twice resolved to participate in an international conference, in 1973 and in 1977. However, in both instances the government acted under heavy external pressure, and Israel made its agreement conditional on certain terms and on receiving guarantees and

securities designed to reduce the harm that the conference was liable to cause Israeli interests.

5. Al-Sadat's visit to Israel, the Camp David accords, and the peace treaty forged a new reality which retrospectively justified Israel's adamant stand in favor of direct negotiations as the only road to a peace settlement.

II. The Stand of the National Unity Government

The Basic Guidelines of the National Unity Government contain no reference to an international conference. They state that our policy must be based on the Camp David accords, which, as is known, determine the path for the continuation of the peace process by means of direct negotiations between Israel and Jordan and the Palestinians with the participation of Egypt and the United States.

No proposal has been brought before the current Israel Government for convening an international conference or participating in such a conference, and no resolution by any other body whatsoever can serve as a substitute for a government decision.

III. Scenario of an International Conference

Taking part in an international conference in the format currently being mooted will be the five permanent members of the Security Council as well as the concerned parties in the Middle East, meaning Israel and its neighbors.

Recently the countries of the European Community have also expressed readiness to take part in such a conference.

Where the Palestinian element is concerned, most of the participants are committed in one form or another to the participation of the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian element. In this situation Israel will find itself in severe isolation.

IV. Conditions for Convening the Conference

It has been claimed that Israel will put forward a series of conditions aimed at ensuring that the conference is merely ceremonial, will convey its greetings to the negotiating partners, and will then play no part in the content or outcome of the negotiations. However, the prospect of Israel's terms being accepted is meager, since it is the participants themselves who will determine the powers of the conference and its mode of operation. It may be assumed that the U.S. will be very hesitant about torpedoing the conference and becoming involved in a confrontation with the Arab states, should the majority of the conference participants conclude that the conference will have input regarding the content and outcome of the negotiations. The Soviet Union has already learned a lesson from the Geneva Conference of December 1973, when it was deprived of an influential role in the conference deliberations. It is certain, therefore, that the USSR will not agree to take part in a conference which is merely ceremonial in nature. In fact, the Soviet ambassador to Jordan stated in an interview to *Agence France Presse* on 2 March 1987 that in the view of the USSR, an international conference should not be transformed into the "simple aim" of direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab states. The participants should be the five permanent members of the Security Council, which are to play an "active role." The ambassador added that "the adversaries can meet in bilateral committees whose resolutions will be submitted to the conference plenum."

V. Motives of the Soviet Union

The USSR wants an international conference because it will thus be able to return to the Middle East arena with a standing equal to that of the U.S. and because this will consitute an arena in which it can demonstrate its support for the Arabs' stands.

For the Soviets and the Arab states, an international conference is not a one-time meeting; to the contrary, as far as they are concerned it will be an institution permanently entrusted with dealing with the Middle East conflict.

The USSR is conducting an extensive propaganda campaign on behalf of the international conference idea, with its representatives at times adducing a deliberate disinformation line to the effect that the Soviet Union has softened it stand regarding renewal of relations with Israel, in return for Israeli assent to an international conference. There is no factual basis for this perception. To the contrary, in the interview already cited, the Soviet ambassador to Jordan noted that his country will be ready to examine the possibility of resuming diplomatic relations with Israel, "the moment the Jewish state evinces sincere readiness to accept a peaceful solution in the Middle East based on withdrawal from the Arab territories captured in 1967."

VI. Stand of the United States

The United States continues to have reservations about the possibility of an international conference and the introduction of the USSR into the Middle East in a central, influential role. During the prime minister's recent visit to the U.S., it emerged that the erosion that occurred in the negative stand of the U.S. concerning the idea of a conference stemmed, inter alia, from efforts at persuasion by Israeli elements vis-a-vis the U.S. Administration.

VII. Role of the UN

The Arabs and the Soviets are insisting that the international conference be held under UN auspices, this to enable them to base their demands on UN resolutions from 1947 to the present on the crucial issues of borders, return of the refugees, and representation of the Palestinians by the PLO. An international conference will constitute a replay in miniature of UN forums, namely, a propaganda arena and a place where the natural tendency will be to align oneself with the extremists.

Since the first Geneva Conference in 1973, the PLO has been admitted to the UN with observer status; hence, should a future international conference be convened, the UN secretary-general will be unable to prevent PLO participation, this in addition to the fact that all the other participants — with the possible exception of the U.S. — will support PLO participation.

VIII. The Precedent of Peace with Egypt

An international conference will adversely affect the Camp David accords and the peace with Egypt, as the Camp David accords state explicitly that negotiations between Israel and the other Arab states will be conducted according to the same format. In a letter dated 20 April 1982, President Mubarak undertook to the prime minister of Israel that the Camp David accords will continue to be the **only** road for pursuing the peace process, in the **future** as well. A similar letter was sent to the President of the United States.

President Mubarak is known to be striving for the effective abrogation of the second part of the Camp David accords, which relate to a settlement with Jordan and the Palestinian question. The international conference idea facilitates Mubarak's effort to free himself from the path of Camp David and from his commitment of 20 April 1982.

Should Israel agree to participate in an international conference, it will with its own hands be undercutting the Camp David accords for which Israel paid such a high price, and will forgo its right as a sovereign state to conduct negotiations with other countries which are in a state of war with it, and are ready to move to a state of peace. An international conference will bring about a situation in which no Arab state will want to conduct bilateral negotiations with us.

IX. Results of an International Conference

An international conference that deals with the Arab-Israeli conflict can lead to only one result: an international consensus in favor of Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 lines and the establishment of a Palestinian entity in Judaea-Samaria and Gaza. Not even the U.S., its friendship for Israel notwithstanding, will be able, within this context, to disavow the Rogers Plan of 1969 which Israel rejected out of hand.

X. The Inevitable Conclusion

Since its establishment, Israel has advocated direct talks with its neighbors, and, indeed, after 30 years the first Arab state recognized the justness of this demand, and peace with Egypt was attained. Israel must continue to insist on direct talks until other Arab states, which truly aspire to peace with us, also recognize that this is the only way to achieve genuine peace.

Soviets Initiate Meeting on Jewish Immigration

TA220517 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Soviet diplomats in the United States recently initiated a meeting with Israeli diplomats in which they made it plain that the Soviet Union does not object to having Jews leave for Israel. However, according to them, the Soviet authorities are preventing a mass exodus because many of them opt to immigrate to the United States, Canada, and Western Europe.

Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that in their contacts with the Soviets, Israeli officials and Jewish representatives in the West are now asking that Moscow allow direct flights to Israel to reduce dropouts.

Soviet Advisers Moved to Beirut From Syria

TA201146 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Avi Bnayahu and correspondent in the north Yehuda Tzur]

[Excerpt] "What bothers me about the Syrians is not necessarily their weapons but their teachings of hatred. As early as kindergarten age, the Syrians teach their children to hate Israel and the Jews," Chief of IDF Intelligence Major General Amnon Shahaq stated yesterday in a meeting with leaders of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Maj Gen Shahaq added that thousands of Soviet advisers are stationed in Syria and, in his opinion, some of them have already moved to Beirut in the footsteps of the Syrian Army, "certainly not for a brief visit."

The IDF officer noted that the Soviet Union's interest in Syria is no weaker than in the past. "Al-Asad is a wise leader who always manages to land on his feet," Shahaq pointed out. [passage omitted]

Shamir Briefs Cabinet on Pollard Affair Probe

TA221112 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has briefed the cabinet on the latest developments in the work of the fact-finding committee dealing with the Pollard affair. Shamir said that today, or, at the latest, tomorrow, Attorney General Yosef Harish, will meet with Knesset Member [MK] David Liba'i to try to reach an arrangement which will enable the appearance of Yosef Yagur, Ilan Ravid, and Irit Erb before the committee.

Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that at the session Minister Ya'aqobi said if no arrangement is found within a few days, the cabinet must initiate the establishment of a legal inquiry commission for the Pollard affair.

Radio on 'Some Delay' in Committee Work

TA221739 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] The fee of MK David Liba'i, who is defending Pollard's three operators, is being paid out of the government budget. This was reported in today's cabinet session. It was also reported that the attorney general will use the law of legal assistance to foreign countries to ensure the secrecy of the testimony given to the fact-finding committee. Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'ami reports on the Cabinet session:

[Begin recording] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed regret that MK Liba'i preferred to threaten the fact-finding committee in a letter which received publicity, instead of directly turning to the government to discuss his client's concerns. Mr Shamir believes a solution to the problem will be found in a meeting between Liba'i and Attorney General Yosef Harish. Mr Harish clarified that the law of legal assistance to foreign countries allows him leeway in deciding what material to transfer to foreign countries when there is a legal proceeding in these countries, and that he intends to use his judgment in this issue. Answering questions posed by Ministers Weizman, Rubinstein, and Moda'i, Ministers Peres and Rabin said that MK Liba'i's fee in the defense of the three Science Liaison Bureau workers is being paid from government coffers. They noted that Liba'i asked their approval approximately 18 months ago to defend the three, and they gave their approval.

It transpired in today's cabinet session that there will be some delay in the work of the fact-finding committee. Committee member Tzvi Tzur is about to depart for a previously planned business trip. Tzur announced his intention to travel when he was asked to be a member of the committee, but he cut the trip to 10 days. The prime minister said the committee will examine documents submitted to it during Tzur's absence. [end recording]

Peres, Rabin Deny Durenberger IDF Spy Charge

TA220645 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Mar 87 p 1

[Staff report]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry "does not relate to the press reports" regarding an American spy allegedly caught in the IDF in 1982, ministry spokesman Ehud Gol said on Friday.

Both Foreign Minister Peres and Defence Minister Rabin were quoted over the weekend as denying any knowledge of the discovery of a U.S. spy in the IDF.

Several senior government officials, including the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, Yosef Ben-aharon, and Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein, said they had no knowledge of the case reportedly mentioned last week by U.S. Senator David Durenberger. "I haven't a clue about it," Rubinstein said.

According to a story in Friday's The Jerusalem Post by Washington correspondent Wolf Blitzer, Durenberger said that Israel had decided to "run" Pollard after discovering that the CIA had recruited a "high-level" officer in the IDF to spy on Israel.

[In a related item on pages one and eight, The Jerusalem Post of 22 March summarizes articles in The Washington Post and The New York Times, adding that Washington correspondent Wolf Blitzer reports that "well-placed administration and congressional sources confirmed yesterday" the reports that the U.S. recruited an IDF officer to spy on Israel. None of the sources were named.]

Attorney Liba'i, Clients Respond to Shamir Letter

TA211941 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Here is a report we have just received concerning the Pollard affair. In reaction to the letter to David Liba'i from the prime minister, Yosef Yagur, Ilan Ravid, and Irit Erb have said that Israel is a country ruled by law and that no threats will deter them from stating the whole truth and from standing on their rights. Lawyer David Liba'i told our correspondent Elimelekh Ram this evening that the prime minister's letter strengthens his fear that the testimonies of the three might be handed over to U.S. prosecution. Liba'i said he is familiar with the Israel Government's commitment undertaken in December 1985 to completely cooperate with the United States in investigating the Jonathan Pollard spy affair. MK Liba'i also told our correspondent that he recommended that his clients testify before MK Abba Eban's Knesset subcommittee because Chairman Eban decided to impose complete secrecy on the minutes of the subcommittee's sessions and not to hand them over to any element outside the subcommittee, in Israel or abroad.

Press Calls for Resignations, Investigation

TA220910 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 22 Mar 87

[From the review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *Ma'ariv* thinks that only the resignation of Israeli leaders will calm the feelings over the Pollard affair in the United States and Israel. The paper predicts that anything less than this will be insufficient, less than this will not happen, and the earlier it happens the better it will be for Israel and its people.

The other two papers demand the establishment of a state commission of inquiry into the affair, instead of the fact-finding committee.

Yedi'ot Aharonot says that only a commission of inquiry will make it possible to reach the actual truth and what is happening with the fact-finding committee is only reinforcing this view.

Hadashot calls on the members of the fact-finding committee to immediately renounce their letter of appointment and make a vigorous demand to have a state inquiry commission established.

Nimrodi Prepared To Testify on Iran Arms Affair

TA220540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] The Voice of Israel's Washington correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, reports that Israeli arms dealer Ya'aqov Nimrodi is prepared to give evidence on the Iran arms affair to the special investigator Ed Walsh. Nimrodi says he has nothing to hide. The U.S. authorities have been informed unofficially of Nimrodi's willingness to testify.

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein are categorically opposed to the appearance of the

Israelis involved in the affair before U.S. investigators in the United States.

Reporter Schiffer adds that the former director general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, and Israeli arms dealer Al Schwimmer are both visiting the United States after being promised that they would not be subpoenaed to testify on the Irangate scandal.

'Secret' Report To Expose Lavi Errors

TA201540 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (LESHABAT Supplement) in Hebrew 20 Mar 87 pp 3, 26

[Article by Ron Ben-Yishay: "The State Comptroller: 'Serious Blunders in the *Lavi* Project'"]

[Text] Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] hates and is scared of it, the defense establishment does not like to talk about it, and the government and the Knesset do not yet know its content. However, when it is placed on their desks at the beginning of April, a secret report compiled by the State Comptroller on the future of the *Lavi* project will expose another series of blunders on an international level, blunders being paid for by the Israeli and particularly by the U.S. taxpayer.

The report exposes mistakes and superficiality in the calculation of the project's cost and in the pertinent decisionmaking process over the last 8 years. It explains for the first time in an authoritative fashion how a small, cheap, one-engine plane — which was supposed to be the "low-end complement" of the Israeli Air Force's "high-end" *F-15's* and *F-16's* — became a two-engine aircraft that is supposed to compete with the *F-16* and to gobble down the lion's share of the IDF's procurement budget for many years to come.

If the government does not want to repeat in its past mistakes, the ministers will have to study the report very carefully before they decide on the project's future. The report, classified as "secret", has been buried deep on the shelves of the top echelon of the Defense Ministry and the IDF for the past 3 months.

The report examines three aspects of the *Lavi* project:

— The decisionmaking process;

— The economic aspect and cost estimates;

— The operational aspect.

The polite and carefully worded report states that the miscalculations of the cost and pricing of the project misled decisionmakers; that the General Staff, which is supposed to take in the overall picture of the IDF's procurement plans, was a junior and almost negligible party to decisions made at the political level; that in the critical stages when it was decided to carry out the project — that is, 7 years ago — the alternatives proposed by the Americans, primarily the one being considered now to purchase ready- made *F-16's* and equip them with Israeli avionics, were not examined.

It turns out that from the beginning the *Lavi* was supposed to be a small and simple one-engine jet fighter that would become operational for the Air Force toward the end of the 1980's (that is, now). The *Lavi* was meant to be a cheap substitute for old-fashioned jet fighters such as *Skyhawks*, *Kfirs*, and *Phantoms*, and to enable the Air Force to devote the lion's share of its procurement budget to purchase U.S.-made high-quality aircraft that would have been available in the 1980's and 1990's. This was the original plan unanimously approved by the government in February 1980 at the recommendation of then Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman.

Furthermore, the decision about this "cheap little bastard" of a plane was made without giving the U.S. team set up by the administration in Washington time to propose alternatives. The Americans swallowed the decision, and the Air Force was asked to formulate its operational demands for the aircraft. The *Lavi* had quite a few opponents within the Air Force and among the members of the General Staff as early as then. However, once the political level made its decision, the Air Force resolved to make the best of it.

The maximal operational demand posed to the designers by the Air Force was enthusiastically greeted by IAI, whose employees proceeded immediately to the drawing table. The result was an aircraft 15 percent larger than the original *Lavi* and, of course, more expensive.

This aircraft was presented to the new defense minister. Menahem Begin, who replaced 'Ezer Weizman in the Defense Ministry, did not see fit to consult the cabinet plenum when he actually decided on a new and more expensive *Lavi*.

Begin, along with the finance minister, the Defense Ministry director general, the Finance Ministry director general, the Air Force commander, and others, decided to build a larger, two-engine aircraft. Those who took part in that meeting point to the fact that before making a decision they compared the U.S. alternatives — *F-16's* and *F-18's* — with the *Lavi*, and the latter proved cheaper. Development costs were estimated at $800 million to $1 billion, and the cost of one airplane was put at $7 million. These calculations were based on data provided by IAI which had been examined by the Defense Ministry's economic adviser. According to the State Comptroller, this data was wrong, was prepared in a superficial manner, and did not provide a true estimate of the costs. However, the decision was made nevertheless, and the big *Lavi* hit the road.

Another affair exposed in the report involves the decision on the *Lavi* engine. Initially it was decided to equip it with a General Electric F404, an engine that had proved successful in other Air Force planes. However, at the Air Force's recommendation, Menahem Begin decided on a modern engine that had not been tested before: a Pratt and Whitney PW1120. This additional factor contributing to the high cost of the project is the object of some of the most unflattering remarks in the report.

When Ari'el Sharon became defense minister in 1981, he halted the project to reassess it. This was indeed done, but again the data was provided by IAI and Defense Ministry officials.

In a debate in another security forum, several IDF generals voiced their vehement opposition to the project, arguing that the *Lavi* would come at the expense of more urgent and important procurement needs. These arguments were pushed aside.

In the political background, Prof Moshe Arens, a former IAI official, exerted constant pressure to go ahead with and expand the project. "There was nothing we could do, the game was rigged in the political arena," a senior IDF officer with whom I discussed the findings of the report says today.

The *Lavi's* finest hour came in 1983. Prof Moshe Arens became defense minister and, based on data provided by IAI, decided to speed-up the timetable for the supply of the first *Lavi's* to the Air Force by 1 year.

However, at the end of 1984 everybody realized this was an unrealistic goal and the timetable was changed back.

Nevertheless, the development of the *Lavi* continued without interruption and according to the original cost estimate. The big crisis took place in February-March 1985. Under pressure from the Americans, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin decided to conduct another thorough analysis of the project's costs and, to everybody's astonishment, it was revealed for the first time that the development cost of the *Lavi* would be double what had been estimated until then; in other words, $2 billion or even more for its development, and the price of a single aircraft would be $15 to $16 million (instead of $7 million).

It also emerged that the Air Force would not be able to purchase the intended number of aircraft, which would further raise the cost of the entire project. It took heavy U.S. pressure and worrisome findings about the cost of the project in 1986 and 1987 to convince the government that the project must be reassessed and a new decision made.

Even the most prominent and devoted advocates of the *Lavi* within the defense establishment are very ill at east when they speak about the State Comptroller's report. Almost all of them admit that the decisionmaking process was at fault, but many argue that the criticism over the way the *Lavi's* cost was estimated is unjust. They claim that at every step of the way the pertinent ministers were presented with updated data conforming to the economic situation at the time.

"In Israel, it is hard to predict economic developments even from one day to the next," one of the targets of this criticism regretfully says.

The report was supposed to be submitted to the Knesset in February. A copy of it was sent to the Defense Ministry as early as January. However, the previous state comptroller, Yitzhaq Tuniq, decided at the last minute for reasons better known to him to delay its official publication until the beginning of April. The timing is purely incidental but quite ominous from the point of view of the advocates of the *Lavi* both inside and outside the government.

Botha Claims U.S. Behind Decision on S. Africa

TA201428 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] South Africa's Embassy in Israel has conveyed the South African Foreign Ministry's reaction to the government's decision not to sign new security contracts with Pretoria. The embassy also conveyed President Pieter Botha's message claiming that Israel's decision stems from American pressure. South Africa's president noted, however, that the Israeli decision does not go beyond what European governments have decided on this issue.

Air Force Hits 'Terrorist' Command Post Near Sidon

TA230630 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Israeli Air Force planes attacked terrorist targets south of Sidon this morning and returned safely to base. The pilots reported accurate hits. Our military correspondent Gay Zohar has additional details:

At around 0625 [0425 GMT] this morning, Air Force planes attacked a terrorist command post near Sidon in southern Lebanon. The two-story building housed the command of one of the Palestinian terrorist organizations. The attack was short, lasting several minutes. The pilots reported accurate hits. It seems that arms were also stored in the command post. Antiaircraft fire was directed at the planes, but did not pose a danger to the pilots, who returned safely to base. Lebanon has yet to report casualties. This is the second Air Force attack within 4 days. A target south of Sidon was attacked last Friday [20 March].

---

2 IDF Soldiers Wounded by Bomb in South Lebanon

TA202007 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Two IDF soldiers sustained slight injuries when a roadside bomb exploded in the security zone of southern Lebanon this afternoon. The bomb was planted on the side of the road east of Bint Jubayl; it exploded when an IDF unit passed by. Our correspondent Gabi Zohar notes that this is the second incident this week in which IDF soldiers have been wounded in the central sector of the security zone.

---

2 'Terrorists' Killed by IDF in Security Zone

TA221047 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1044 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] During the night two terrorists were killed in a clash with an IDF force in the eastern sector of the security strip. Our forces sustained no casualties. The clash occurred northwest of Hasbayya and their personal arms and weapons were found beside the bodies of the terrorists.

ALGERIA

Ibrahimi, Soviet Counterpart Exchange Greetings

LD221358 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Twenty-five years have passed since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Algeria and the Soviet Union. On this occasion, Dr. Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, exchanged congratulations with his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

Netherlands Foreign Minister Holds Talks

LD221111 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Algiers, 22/3/87 (APS) — In the frame of the official visit to Algeria of the Dutch foreign minister, Algerian-Dutch political talks started here Sunday. These talks started by a limited meeting between Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and his Dutch counterpart, Hans van den Broek. During his working session, the two sides exchanged views on a large number of international topical questions.

The Middle East conflict and the Palestinian question were the subject of a thorough examination particularly in light of the declaration of the EEC in favour of an international conference on peace in the Middle East and prospects of the reunification of the Palestinian resistance and the holding of an Arab summit.

The relaunch of the Euro Arab dialogue was also dealt with by the two sides which expressed their views on objectives and modalities of the dialogue.

The Lebanese crisis was also dealt with in light of efforts aimed at favouring national reconciliation and the restoration of peace in Lebanon.

The two sides also examined the evolution of the conflict between Iraq and Iran and initiatives likely to find a political solution for this conflict.

Concerning regional issues, the two sides examined the Western Sahara conflict in its political and military dimension and its consequences on security, stability and construction of the Great Maghreb.

It is worth recalling that Hans van den Broek arrived Sunday here for a three day official visit at the invitation of Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi.

Air Transport Agreement Signed

LD222254 Algiers Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] The international energy situation has been examined in Algiers by the energy minister and the Netherlands foreign minister. The two officials spoke about bilateral relations in the field of energy and the chemical industry and the prospects for their development.

The Netherlands minister also met the minister of transport today. An agreement was signed in the field of air transport.

Messaadia Makes 'Technical' Stopover in Spain

For coverage of the technical stopover made by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Politburo member and head of the FLN Central Committee, in Spain on his way to Cuba, including his meeting with Spanish Socialist Workers Party officials, see the Spain section of the 23 March Western Europe *Daily Report*.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Terrorism Conference

LD202248 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2056 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's address to international conference on terrorism in Geneva on 20 March 1987 via Tripoli-Geneva satellite linkup; in Arabic with sentence by sentence translation into English by off-screen translator; translated from original Arabic — recorded]

[Text] First, I greet Mr (Hans) and the international progressive organization for the efforts it exerted in organizing this international conference concerning this dangerous phenomenon [words indistinct] which is terrorism. I greet you and support you and thank you for this great (?noble) effort, in view of the fact that my country is a victim of terrorism, and my people have lost their dear children and some of their women and old people as a result of the international terrorism practiced by the United States and Britain, setting out from military bases in America, Britain, Italy, and Spain. As for Italy and Britain, they are bases for the American 6th Fleet. [passage indistinct] We are very interested in the success of this conference, because we are victims of terrorism.

I would like to make some contributions today. First, I would like to enumerate the victims of terrorism. The first victims of terrorism in our region are the Palestinian people. They are international victims of terrorism. As a result of the terrorism practiced against the Palestinian people by world Zionism, with the support of imperialism, they have lost more than half of their sons, and terrorist operations continue to pursue them everywhere. The Palestinian people live in very tragic conditions because they are pursued by the organized international terrorism at the hands of the so-called Jewish state in Palestine which is backed by the United States.

The Kurdish people are also victims of international terrorism. The Libyan people are still bleeding because of the (?racist) military operations conducted by the strongest state in the world. The Red Indian nation was dispersed and dismembered because of American terrorism, the terrorism practiced by Americans. Blacks everywhere suffer from terrorism because of their color. The people of Northern Ireland suffer from organized terrorism practiced by the United Kingdom. Those are historic victims, against whom official terrorism is practiced.

As for the tools of terrorism, the first is the nuclear bomb. Nuclear and chemical weapons have also caused great fear in the world. The ones responsible for these terrorist weapons are the states manufacturing and possessing nuclear bombs. There is another tool which causes great fear to mankind, which comes after the nuclear bomb: the AIDS virus. I mention this virus because someone is responsible for it. This virus did not come from the jungle or from monkeys as the United States claims. I want to inform you that the United States made this virus. U.S. intelligence conducted tests on germs with a view to using them in germ warfare and this virus emerged as a result. U.S. intelligence was unable to control this virus after playing with genetics in this regard. The United States is responsible for the spread of this terror in the world.

Other tools of terror include military bases and fleets, military fleets all over the world terrorizing the peaceful peoples of the world. Another tool of state terrorism is the starvation process carried out by the United States by withholding wheat or buying the freedom of nations with wheat.

The psychological war currently waged by imperialist and Zionist circles is another instrument of terror and terrorism in the world. Libya has suffered and paid a price because of official state terrorism. Many such methods of terrorism have been used against Libya. American fleets have been used against it as one of the instruments of international terrorism. Military bases in Britain, Spain, and Italy have been used against it for this purpose. Libya is now being terrorized from the south after the use of terror against it from the north failed -- undertaken by two states which are members of the Security Council and supposed to be responsible for world peace, by America and France. This happened after America and Britain, with the help of Spain and Italy, had conducted terrorism against Libya from the north.

The most notorious terrorists in the world now are the Yankees and the Israelis. But what is the solution? This is what matters. Before arriving at a conclusion, in which I will speak about the attempt to find a solution, there is something I want to say. There are several forms of terrorism: There is state terrorism against one's own citizens. Most citizens of the states of the world suffer from the terrorism of their own governments. For instance, the British people suffer from the tyranny of the government police, conducted in a grave terrorist manner. When the British people stage a demonstration, they are trampled under the feet of the horses of the police; boiling water is poured over them. This exists in several Western states.

Regrettably, this is beginning to spread from Western Europe to other countries in the world. This is state terrorism against states where there is no Jamahiriyah regime, where there is a government and a people, a police in the hands of the government and an army in the hands of the government, where there are horses in the hands of the police, boiling water in the hands of the police.

When citizens want to express their feelings in West European states they are terrified because they know these tools of terrorism will be used against them. Western governments are extremely reactionary and dictatorial. History is repeating itself in Europe which is witnessing the same thing as in the days of Austrian Chancellor Metternich. The democracy they talk about in Western Europe is false and ridiculous. Western Europe is very reactionary and very dictatorial, including the United States and Britain. There is no freedom for the peoples of Western Europe. These people are living under government terrorism. There is state terrorism against the weak.

Libya, as a state, was weak against, and a victim of, the United States and Britain. The Palestinian people and the Lebanese people are weak against the United States and Israel. The Kurds are weak against the official states in the Kurdistan area. The Catholics in Northern Ireland are a weak against the United Kingdom. Then there is the terrorism of the colonialists against liberation movements. This is being practiced by the United States, South Africa, and the Israelis, and by France against its colonies. France, America, the Israelis and South Africa are responsible for the practicing of colonialist terrorism against liberation movements.

The Western states are now defending terrorism against the liberated countries of the Middle East. Consequently, this terrorism will be transferred to these states. France, Britain, or Italy complain about terrorist operations carried out by people from the Middle East. The reason is that these states defend terrorism against the liberated states in the Middle East. Liberation movements, the weak, and citizens are forced to carry out action which is called confronting terrorism with terrorism. Liberation movements, the weak side, and citizens are compelled to take terrorist actions against governments, against colonialists and against state terrorism. Regrettably, the actions of governments, of colonialists, and the official actions of the state are considered legal while the actions carried out by the citizens against the government, the action of the weak against the strong, the actions of liberation movements against the colonialists are considered illegal.

There is illegal terrorism and legal terrorism. This classification is wrong, but it stems from reality. Legal terrorism is the one carried out by governments, the strong states, the colonialists. They engage in acts of terrorism, extremely grave acts of terrorism which go to the point of exterminating whole peoples. But they say it is legal because it is undertaken by the strong. However, when an oppressed citizen rises against a reactionary dictatorial government, such as a West European citizen, or when weak states oppose strong states, or when liberation movements act against their respective colonialists, when they take action against terrorism, then such action is considered illegal.

The right definition of terrorism is terrorism practised by governments and by the superpowers against the weak states, and terrorism conducted by colonial states against national liberation movements. At the same time, citizens, liberation movements, and weak states retaliate against such terrorism directed against them. Now, when we undertake such retaliation, the latter is condemned as terrorism, and the cause is ignored; namely, that terrorism was conducted in the first place by these parties against weak parties. It is as if West Europe pretends to ignore that it is defending terrorism against the liberation-seeking Middle East states and at the same time complains that terrorism is being exported from the Middle East to West Europe.

So terrorism will continue in Western Europe as long as Western Europe defends terrorism against the Middle East. Counterterrorism will continue as long as the so-called Israeli state continues to exist forcibly in Palestine and to carry out official terrorism against the Palestinians. All the small peoples will continue to take counteraction against the United States as long as it practices state terrorism against them.

France will be subjected to terrorism also as long as it exercises organized terrorism against its colonies. It has occupied Chad by military force and imposed by military force a government against the will of the Chadian people. It is occupying Caledonia and slaying its people and it is occupying Martinque and slaying its people. It is also occupying Mayotte Island by force and La Reunion Island. Therefore, it will be the target of terrorism by the liberation movements in these colonies. France will then complain about and condemn terrorism forgetting that it is the cause. If there is to be any possibility of a solution, then all peoples of the world must struggle against the imperialists. The United States, as a major terrorist state, should be besieged by all peoples of the world. It should be boycotted throughout the world and blacklisted until it stops terrorizing people. All the peace-loving forces must undertake this mission day and night. Furthermore, all forces of peace and liberation should unite in support of the Palestinian people to enable them to defeat Zionism.

As long as Zionism and American imperialism have not disappeared, terrorism will prevail over mankind. Therefore, the Zionist state must be ostracized and put on the blacklist by all peoples on earth. There must be opposition to any link between the racist Zionist state and any other state in the world. Furthermore, people must incriminate the states that have the nuclear bomb and continue to manufacture it. There must be a struggle against the states that have the nuclear bomb so that they may realize their terrible crime against humanity.

As for the Western states, they will be subjected to more terrorism until they stop helping the terrorist groups which oppose the liberation-seeking regimes in the Middle East. Terrorism in Europe will end only bu using more terrorism against it so that it will realize that Europe itself is the cause. When Western Europe stops defending the terrorism directed against the liberation-seeking states in the Middle East, then terrorism in Western Europe will end. Imperialist, racist, and colonialist governments and states must realize that practising terrorism will give rise to more terrorism with more severity and on a wider scale. The road we are now following will witness more terrorism, and the liberation movements, citizens, and the weak states believe that intensifying terrorism against terrorism will persuade the world to stop terrorism.

These solutions and these proposals are not impossible. The vital forces in the world, the forces of the peoples, the humanitarian organizations, those in existence and the ones which should be created, can carry out a collective struggle in accordance with this guidance which I have presented to you. One day we shall achieve the indictment of the states which possess the nuclear bomb, the chemical bomb, and the germ bomb. The colonialist states and the states which practice state terrorism will find themsleves in the dock, condemned internationally, and held criminally responsible by all the vital forces of the world. Only then will sense return to those tyrants, and the one who does not recover his senses will pay a high price. The day will come when these terrorist methods will be banned and held to be barbaric, like Nazism and fascism. Imperialism will be like Nazism, Zionism will be like Nazism and fascism, and colonialism will be regarded as criminal. Only then will we create a new world. And I am confident that mankind is capable of this.

This spirit exists now and you represent part of the conscience of the world. As long as there are people like you, the seeds for a solution exist. We should spread across the continents of the world and create people like you. We must create an international opposition in all the continents of the world against the causes of terrorism which I have mentioned and against the tools of terrorism being used by the terrorists. I am confident of victory in the end. The struggle continues. God's peace and prayers be upon you.

Reportedly 'Cut Off' in Link Up

NC210809 Paris AFP in English 0745 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Geneva, March 21 (AFP) — Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi was cut off mid-sentence Friday in a television link-up between Tripoli and a conference on terrorism here organised by the International Organisation for Progress.

He had just started to answer the first question from delegates after his speech when the sound was cut. He sat waiting for it to be restored and then got up and left the Tripoli studio.

The questioner, an American teacher, had asked why Libya had not taken its case to the International Court of Justice after the U.S. air raids on Tripoli and Banghazi on April 15 last year.

During his speech the colonel called on smaller countries to boycott the United States and Israel, the seats of world terrorism, and accused the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of creating the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) virus as a biological weapon.

He warned Europe could expect attacks "as long as it was an accomplice to terrorist acts in the Middle East, notably against the Palestinians, the number one victims of terrorism."

He also attacked France for its policies in Chad, New Caledonia, Martinique, Mayotte and Reunion, warning it "would have to reckon with the terrorist acts perpetrated by these oppressed peoples."

The three-day conference of some 50 U.S. and European delegates was to adopt a final resolution on Saturday

JANA Condemns U.S. Official's Terrorism Statement

LD221154 Tripoli JANA in English 1109 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] New York, Al Marikh 22, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — Paul Brummer, the director of the so-called Anti-Terrorist

Agency at the American Department of State, declared that it is probable that Libya is in the process of preparing for the resumption of what he called as terrorist attacks. Despite his assertion that he had no evidence to prove what he was saying, he told the Writers Club in Washington that the information was obtained from intelligence sources.

All we can say is that the statement of Brummer is mere prattle and vile talk and it is so low and hollow that we are not ready to reply to.

America and the whole world know who is planning and executing terrorism openly against world peoples who oppose American imperialist control. The world knows now more than ever before that it is America who plans for international terrorism. It was exposed before the whole world only a few months ago when American papers revealed that senior officials of the American Administration including the Israeli mad dog Reagan himself planned the biggest ever terrorist operation in modern history in a bid to kill a nationalist and revolutionary leader and his family which was executed by American terrorists under darkness on 15th Al Tayr last year. Moreover, the world public opinion became totally aware of these false claims which came from time to time from the corridors of the CIA and that they are merely vile and hollow allegations which the same American agencies tried to promote before Al-Fatih month of last year when the emissary of the American Administration Vernon Walters toured Western European countries propagating the same baseless claims made now by Paul Brummer. However, all American papers revealed that all these claims are mere lies and fabrication.

We would not have replied to these vile statements made from time to time by officials of the American Administration, if it was not for our interest to remind the world of past stands of the American terrorist administration and we are not ready to receive orders from America or anyone else. They are stupid and vile statements.

MOROCCO

King Hassan II Holds Talks With King Fahd

LD211349 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Fes, 21 Mar (MAP) — His Majesty King Hassan II last night held separate talks in the VIP lounge at Fes Airport with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, custodian of the two holy mosques.

At the end of the talks, King Hassan II saw the Saudi king off at Fes Airport on his way to Tangiers.

His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was also seen off by Interior and Information Minister Driss Basri; General Moulay Abdelhafid Alaoui, minister of royal palaces, protocol and decorations; Ahmed Reda Guedira and Mohamed Aoued, the two kings' advisers; and Moulay Mehdi Alaoui Lamrani, governor of Fes Province.

Prime Minister Condemns Libyan 'Interference'

JN231506 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1412 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Mar (SUNA) — Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, prime minister and defense minister, has condemned the Libyan forces' interference [words indistinct] describing it as deceptive behavior.

Answering a question before the Constituent Assembly this morning, his excellency said the concerned authorities will handle the situation in a way that will preserve Sudanese national security and safeguard the country's territory, adding this issue will be presented to the Council of Ministers to adopt a stand on the whole situation with its political and diplomatic dimensions. His excellency said that Libyan forces arrived in Sudan in the first half of February along with a relief convoy. The Libyan forces, he said, comprised 700-1,000 soldiers supplied with rocket-launchers, anti-aircraft guns, antitank guns, light weapons, and 400 vehicles under Libyan command.

Addressing the Constituent Assembly today, Al-Mahdi said the Libyan forces which arrived included men who make up what is known as the Islamic Corps and who are from West Africa. He asserted the Libyan force was ordered to withdraw at the time and they withdrew a distance of 200 km and stopped near the (?Al-Wakhim) area on the Sudanese-Libyan border. He said the Sudanese forces were ordered to watch them to insure their withdrawal.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said that during his recent stay in Libya, Major General Burmah Nasir, minister of state at the Foreign Ministry, met with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Colonel Abu Bakr Yunis, [chief of staff of the Libyan Armed Forces], both of whom affirmed to Maj Burmah Nasir that the Libyan force had withdrawn. However, Al-Mahdi said, the Libyan force did not withdraw and he wrote a letter to Col Abu Bakr Yunis on 18 March asking him to withdraw the Libyan force.

Al-Mahdi said that instead of withdrawing northward the Libyan force moved west to attack the Chadian forces. He said French aircraft violated Sudanese airspace to pursue the Libyan forces and the French ambassador in Khartoum was informed of this. Al-Mahdi added the French ambassador promised to contact his government and French aircraft did not violate Sudanese airspace after that.

Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said when the conflict in Chad erupted again Libya asked to use the Al-Junaynah airport but Sudan refused.

Al-Mahdi added: The United States asked to transport materiel across Sudanese territory but we refused and told them we will not extend any facilities to any party to the conflict. We told them the only solution lies in a direct Libyan-Chadian meeting so agreement can be reached on points of difference.

Asked about the Sudanese initiative, Al-Mahdi said the Libyan and Chadian delegations who came to Khartoum have reached a deadlock in their talks because the authorization given to the two delegations by their respective leaders was limited.

Al-Mahdi said the two delegations Sudan had sent, the first to Libya under Major General Burmah Nasir and the second to Chad under Ahmad Sa'd 'Umar, had communicated to the Sudanese command the acceptance of the two countries' leaders of the Sudanese plan as a basis for negotiations. It also became clear that the Libyan side sought to consolidate its position on a military level before reconciliation.

Answering questions by Constituent Assembly members on the entry of a Libyan force inside Sudanese territory, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi stressed that in view of its lengthy borders, Sudan cannot completely control them militarily but can protect them politically through a policy of good neighborliness and cooperation.

Al-Mahdi added: If we fail to control them with these methods, then we must deal with the state of affairs militarily as much as possible. Al-Mahdi denied that Sudanese forces besieged the Libyan force, stressing the Sudanese forces were given instructions to only prevent the deployment of this force. He said: The Libyan force which took up positions in the (?Al-Wakhim) area in Darfur region also moved to other areas. He added: We consider this a violation. He said: Details about the areas where the Libyan force was also deployed will be sent to us by the competent parties.

Replying to side questions on the Libyan force's interference in Sudanese territory, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi denied that the Sudanese-Libyan military protocol contains any specific commitments toward Sudan. Al-Mahdi said the protocol only organizes the aid Libya has extended to Sudan. He denied that the Sudanese-Egyptian Brotherhood Charter has any link with these events. He also denied knowing about the presence of Libyan soldiers in the northern region. He said: This is untrue and I have not heard of it.

Al-Mahdi denied the Libyan force has 300 tanks, saying one-third of the Libyan vehicles carried relief aid and the rest of the vehicles carried soliders and military equipment. He said the Libyan force is a limited force, adding that the question is not one of moving it out by force but one of what happens after the force is ordered out [of Sudan].

Referring to the formation of the Libyan force, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said it includes a number of forces more than half of which are made up of Sudanese and Chadians and that there is no evidence that these forces represent their governments and, consequently, the states to which the members of these forces belong were not contacted.

Referring to the circumstances of the entry of the force into Sudanese territory, Al-Mahdi said: The [Libyan] force did not obtain permission from us to enter [Sudan]. The matter was connected with the entry of a relief convoy and the matter became known to the authorities only after the entry of the Libyan force.

Al-Mahdi said the relief issue was a prelude to much misbehavior. He said there are a lot of aberrations but did not state what such aberrations were. Al-Mahdi said: The entry of the Libyan force on the pretext of relief requires us to deal with the situation with new logic. He added: We are now studying all the negative aspects of the situation.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Chad's Habre To Meet 'Soon'

JN211157 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Mar (SUNA) — Sudan's efforts to end the dispute between Chad and Libya will culminate in a summit in Khartoum soon between President Hissein Habre and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, according to the newspaper *Al-Siyasah*. A Sudanese Government envoy to Tripoli and Ndjamena secured consent to dialogue and negotiations by the two countreis which commended and welcomed Khartoum's initiative to end their dispute peacefully.

Speaking at Khartoum airport upon his return from his official mission, Ahmad Sa'd 'Umar, the Sudanese Government's envoy to Ndjamena, told *Al-Siyasah* that President Habre agreed to a meeting with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to work out a peaceful solution to the dispute along the lines of the Sudanese initiative. The envoy said the Chadian Government commended the Sudanese initiative and diplomatic efforts and welcomed a peaceful end to the dispute. Within the framework of unifying the Chadian factions toward a political agreement, the Ndjamena Government sent an official delegation led by Chad's interior minister to Algiers to discuss military and political details with Goukouni Ouddei, 'Umar said.

Sudan's ambassador in Ndjamena told *Al-Siyasah* that the Chadian Government appreciated the circumstances of the deployment of Libyan forces in western Sudan and their subsequent withdrawal in deference to Sudan's policy of not giving military facilities to either party of the dispute and noninterference in other countries' internal affairs. Meanwhile, Major General Ihim Fadlalah Burma Nasir, Sudan's minister of state for defense [name and title as received] and its envoy to the Libyan Government said upon his return from Tripoli that he had successful and encouraging talks with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi which should promote the peace efforts. Maj Gen Burma said the Libyan Government was convinced of the usefulness of the Sudanese efforts and welcomed dialogue as a means to find a peaceful solution to the dispute with Chad.

Dr 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din, State Council member and head of the Sudanese mediation committee to end the Chadian-Libyan dispute, had met with the Sudanese Government's envoys to Chad and Libya to review the outcome of their mission and take follow-up measures accordingly.

The Arab Republic of Egypt announced its support for Sudan's endeavors to contain the dispute between Libya and Chad, and so has the United States recently.

Official Denies Meeting Planned

JN221047 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 22 (SUNA) — Member of the State Council 'Ali Hasan Taj al-Din has denied the convening of a summit meeting in Khartoum between Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Chadian President Hissein Habre.

Al-Siyasah daily Saturday reported that a summit meeting between the two leaders is due to take place here in the near future but Taj al-Din who is in charge of African Affairs at the Five Member Council told SUNA that it was not true that there would be a summit meeting in Khartoum between the two leaders.

Taj al-Din confirmed that Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi had sent messages to Al-Qadhdhafi and Habre in accordance with the Sudanese initiative for finding a political settlement for the Chadian conflict.

Meanwhile the Chadian charge d'affaires in Khartoum reiterated his country's willingness to accept mediation on condition that the Libyan troops should pull out of Chad.

DJIBOUTI

Tunisian, Kuwaiti Arrested in Bombing Connection

LD221333 Paris Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Two people suspected of causing the Djibouti bomb blast have been arrested. You will recall that a bomb exploded last Wednesday in a cafe in the town, killing 11 people including 4 French soldiers and 1 French civilian. The two people arrested are a Kuwaiti and a Tunisian. The Tunisian has admitted his involvement in the bombing.

Tunisian 'Recruited' in Damascus

LD231059 Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Excerpt] There have been fresh developments in the Djibouti bombing affair. The Tunisian who admits being responsible for the attack says he belongs to a Middle East terrorist group and that he was recruited in Damascus. This was announced this morning by Djibouti President Hassan Gouled Aptidon.

The 27-year-old Tunisian from Bizerte also said the organization to which he belongs is called Troops of the Revolutionaries and Resistance Fighters [Troupes des Revolutionnaires et Resistants]. He arrived in Djibouti on 8 March and obtained an 8-day visa at the airport. [passage omitted]

Political Exile Denies Involvement

LD201717 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] It was made known unofficially in Djibouti ruling circles soon after the bomb attack that the person responsible for it may well be one of the main opponents of the President Gouled's regime, that is, former Commerce Minister Aden Robleh Awaleh, leader of the Djibouti National Movement for Democracy [Movement National Djiboutien Pour L'Instauration de la Democratie], a man who lives in exile in Ethiopia and also, and above all, in France. You can hear his reaction recorded by us this morning:

[Begin Robleh recording] I am astonished to hear the press, radio, and television mention my name. What I would like to say on this business is that my movement, that is the Djibouti National Movement for Democracy, denies any responsibility, I repeat, any responsibility in this attack. I consider this attack to be pointless, odious, and I firmly condemn it. There is no contentious matter between us and France and I do not see why our movement should attack France and foreigners, innocent people, as there is no contentious matter. For us, the struggle for liberation against the colonial power is finished. We are fighting now so that the Djibouti people may be able to live in a pluralist democracy. It is entirely a Djibouti affair. I do not see why we should attack France. I said several times that France should not help the regime in power, which is a tyrannical, dictatorial one. If I am here, it is to tell them (?through diplomatic channels) that France should have the interest of the Djibouti people and of the real representatives of the people at heart. That is all. [end recording] [passage omitted]

ETHIOPIA

Ambassador to Japan Resigns in Policy Protest

EA221733 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0530 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Ethiopian Ambassador to Japan Abebe Kebede has announced his resignation as a gesture of opposition to the Dergue regime. He says he will not return to Ethiopia. WPE Central Committee member Abebe Kebede stressed the policy pursued by the Dergue has plunged Ethiopia into an economic and social crisis.

Abebe Kebede went on to say that in addition to turning a blind eye to drought and poverty in Ethiopia, the Dergue regime had deprived the people of their rights. He added that it was not his wish to serve a government which has bowed to Soviet pressure.

Previously, Abebe Kebede was minister of domestic trade in the Dergue government.

Joint EPLF-ELF Congress Held 12-19 March

EA212137 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 1500 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The second unity congress of the EPLF and the central leadership of the ELF was held in the liberated area of Eritrea 12-19 March. The long-awaited congress was attended by 1,287 participants from Eritrea's 9 nationalities representing the 2 liberation fronts, mass organizations in the liberated areas and abroad, and other sections of society.

The congress was also attended by national patriots who have made a significant contribution to the Eritrean struggle, such as Woldeab Wolde Mariam and other renowned heroes. Shaykh Ibrahim Sultan, another patriot, sent his message to the congress in a recorded cassette.

Those who participated in the congress include delegates from the united forces of the EPLF and ELF, representatives of government agencies, liberation movements and organizations, and individuals who support the cause of the Eritrean struggle.

The second unity congress of the EPLF and the ELF's central leadership reviewed at length the struggle waged in the political, military, social, economic, and cultural spheres and the problems encountered in the last 10 years. It approved a new national democratic program and [words indistinct]. The congress underlined that the formation of a national democratic front that embraces all national forces and individuals is necessary to establish a system through arduous struggle which would bring about socioeconomic and cultural transformation and sustain the unity of Eritreans. On the basis of the 1980 (?referendum), the EPLF is determined to (?negotiate) for a peaceful solution.

Declaring its stand for the democratic, national, and [words indistinct] organizations of Ethiopia, it also reaffirmed its wish to have relations and cooperate with them.

The second unity congress of the EPLF and the central leadership of the ELF called on the United States, the USSR, the OAU, the European countries, and the United Nations to support the cause of the Eritrean struggle and to ensure a peaceful solution. It reaffirmed its solidarity with the forces fighting against oppression, exploitation, [words indistinct] and racism.

The second unity congress of the EPLF and the central leadership of the ELF ended by establishing 71 [words indistinct] and a seven-member Central Committee of elders to [words indistinct] and implement the resolutions it passed.

'Final Proclamation' Issued

EA222026 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0530 GMT 22 Mar 87

["Final Proclamation" of the Second EPLF Congress]

[Excerpts] Following 10 years of bitter and comprehensive struggle, the second EPLF congress and the unity meeting of the EPLF-ELF central leadership have been held. The meeting took place victoriously on liberated Eritrean soil from 12-19 March 1987.

The congress was attended by 1,287 participants from the army and mass organizations, and representatives of organizations inside and outside the country. Elderly Eritrean combatants, patriots, representatives of various governments, political parties and organizations and individual friends of the Eritrean people were also there. [passage omitted]

The congress elected 71 permanent and 7 candidate members of the Central Committee who will struggle to implement its practical and correct policies. The Central Committee also elected its secretary general and eight Political Bureau members.

The congress noted with admiration the Eritrean people's resolute struggle to make the revolution victorious, overcome backwardness, solve their problems by themselves, counter enemy attacks and the conspiracy of provocateurs, and defend their unity and the gains of the struggle. It called on them to oppose traitors and anti-unity forces to build their country and strengthen their unity. It appealed to Eritreans in foreign countries to increase their involvement and asked refugees to return home. It called on Eritreans who are being deceived to oppose traitors and foreign forces masquerading in their name, to resist anti-unity groups and to increase their sacrifice and participation in the national struggle.

It noted with admiration the glorious and important victories of the Eritrean People's Liberation Army in protecting the Eritrean people's armed struggle and ensuring its continuity by means of the people's militia and local militia and by sacrificing thousands of its elite members. It called on them to increase their [words indistinct] and carry out their task responsibly.

Admiring the Ethiopian people's struggles for democracy and national rights, it called on them to increase their awareness and organize themselves to overthrow the fascist Dergue regime and to establish a democratic system. It instructed their democratic forces to stop daydreaming, to coordinate and strengthen their struggle, and to oppose forced recruitment into the army and death in an unjust war. It appealed to the army to overthrow the government, which is responsible for the suffering of the Ethiopian people.

It expressed its gratitude to the governments, political parties and organizations which stood by the Eritrean people and their struggle and gave political, military, material, and humanitarian support. It is particularly grateful for their aid during the drought. It thanked those who made an effort and took action to find a peaceful and just solution and to bring about peace, justice and stability. It called on them to increase their assistance and their efforts.

It expressed its gratitude to the Arab governments and organizations that have supported the Eritrean people and their struggle and made political, material and moral contributions. It called on them to increase their support.

While accepting the correct stand of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the Eritrean question, it expressed the view that the intervention of the Kingdom's security body in the name of unity among the combatants has become an obstacle to national unity and revolutionary progress. It felt that its aid was being given to groups that have no role in the [words indistinct] and revolution of the Eritrean people and called for a review of this policy. It urged that the aid be given to the Eritrean people and their struggling force.

It admired the Sudanese people for standing by the Eritrean people for almost a quarter of a century, as well as for their efforts to receive and shelter hundreds of thousands of Eritreans who have left their homes and property because of enemy [passage indistinct]. It expressed its gratitude to various political parties for their efforts to explain to the Sudanese people that the Eritrean position is just and legal and to influence the policy of their government toward the Eritrean cause in a positive direction. It called on the Sudanese people and their political parties to increase their support and cooperation. It called on the Sudanese Government to support the Eritrean revolution and its vanguard, the EPLF, and to increase its efforts towards achieving peace and stability in this area.

It admired the friendship and support of the Somali Government and people for the just Eritrean struggle and called on them to increase their support.

The congress affirmed its solidarity with the Ethiopian people's democratic, national struggle, with the just struggle of the Palestinian people, with the southern African struggle, in general, and the struggle of the Azanian and Namibian peoples, in particular. Internationally, it expressed its solidarity with all struggle being waged for freedom, democracy, peace, and justice.

Everlasting [words indistinct] for our martyred comrades. Victory to the broad masses.

[Dated] 19 March 1987

Soldiers Said Killed, Ammunition Dump Destroyed

EA202123 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0430 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] An enemy ammunition dump in Barentu was destroyed by fire on 15 March. The dump burned for a day and a night. The cause of the fire is unknown. The bullets and explosives inside the depot were destroyed.

An enemy vehicle with 18 soldiers and provisions on board was blown up the day before yesterday in the Barentu area. The vehicle was destroyed by a landmine laid by our heroic engineering units at (Hamedin) on the Akordat-Barentu Road. This is a 2-minute drive from the outskirts of Barentu. Most of the 18 soldiers in the vehicle were killed. The provisions were destroyed.

EPLF engineering units have destroyed (?44) enemy vehicles and two tanks so far this year.

Eritrean Forces Kill 57 'Enemy Soldiers' 16 Mar

EA211852 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0430 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Units of the people's and territorial forces have dealt a lightning blow to enemy troops stationed in nine different parts of Adi Akelom, 25 km from Asmera.

In a 2-hour engagement on 16 March, our heroes killed 57 enemy soldiers, wounded 47, and captured 2 others. Our heroes also captured 1 B-10 [82-mm recoilless gun (USSR)] with its ammunition; 1 14.5 mm cannon, 60-mm mortar; 23 Kalashnikov rifles; 1 radio communication set; and a number of grenades.

Eritrean Radio Claims 209 Ethiopian Troops Killed

EA221454 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0530 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] The heroic Eritrean People's Liberation Army (EPLA) and the local militia have defeated four Dergue brigades in Eritrea's northern zone and forced them to retreat. The brigades were attempting to surround our forces and destroy them. They were supported by heavy artillery fire and had air cover.

During the 2-day battle between our heroic combatants and the Dergue army, which started on 20th March 1987, our heroic combatants killed 209 Dergue soldiers, wounded 420, and captured 13, thereby putting 652 [figure as heard] soldiers completely out of action. Our combatants also captured 65 light weapons, 5 RPG's, 5 pistols, and a communications set. In addition, a tank and a military vehicle were destroyed by landmines laid in the battle area by members of our engineering unit.

The Dergue army attacked from Ela Bared to Anseba, (Hadishiate), (Gohate) and (Akurkut), from Adi Tekelezan to Adi Naamen and (Habrishone), and from (Mekersa) to [word indistinct]. However, our combatants' counterattack forced the Dergue forces which had advanced from Ela Bared to retreat to [word indistinct]. The forces which moved on Adi Naamen were forced to retreat to Adi Tekelezan. The forces which advanced on [word indistinct] were driven to the Keren area and the forces which advanced on (Malazen) to [word indistinct]. Our broad masses in these areas stood by our heroic combatants during the fighting and played an important role.

KENYA

Government Offers To Host Sudanese Peace Talks

EA211445 Nairobi KNA in English 1135 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Kisumu, 21 Mar — Kenya is willing to have a round-table talk with warring forces in Sudan and negotiate for peace, the minister for foreign affairs Mr Elijah Mwangale has said. Mr Mwangale said that while Kenya's foreign policy is geared towards maintaining good relations with our neighbours, it was also the wish of every peace-loving Kenyan that the peace and stability that exists in the country extends to the neighbouring nations.

The minister said that the power struggle in our Sudan [as received] was only hurting the local citizens and every effort should be made to see that peace is restored. Mr Mwangale further said that Kenya's relations with other eastern Africa countries was commendable. [passage omitted]

UGANDA

Former Minister Said Killed by Museveni Troops

EA222131 Nairobi SUNDAY STANDARD in English 22 Mar 87 p 1

[Report by Edward Abuor entitled "NRA Soldiers Killed Kayiira"]

[Text] A Ugandan politician, reported yesterday to have fled his country, said in Nairobi yesterday that a former cabinet minister, Dr Andrew Lutakome Kayiira, was killed by government soldiers.

Mr Francis Bwengye, the secretary-general of the Uganda Freedom Movement (UFM), founded and headed by the slain Dr Kayiira, said he had evidence to prove that President Yoweri Museveni's soldiers murdered Dr Kayiira on 6th March. He claimed that relations between Dr Kayiira and President Museveni had been strained since the middle of 1985, just about the time former President Milton Obote was overthrown by his own army.

In an exclusive interview with the *Sunday Standard* in Nairobi, Mr Bwengye also strongly criticized some policies of President Museveni, saying they could plunge the country into more serious problems than it had witnessed in the past.

He denied press reports that he had fled the country. He said Ugandan authorities, including President Museveni, were aware of "my movements outside the country." I wrote to President

Museveni, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and other related bodies informing them about my intention to go out of the country for a short period," he said. [quotation marks as received] "I told them that after 5 months in detention, the death of a dear colleague, and uncertainty about my personal security, it was wise that I go out for a short rest," he said.

Mr Bwengye was a former secretary-general of the Democratic Party (DP), whose leader is the minister of internal affairs, Dr Paul Ssemogerere. He belongs to President Museveni's Banyankole tribe in southwestern Uganda.

Mr Bwengye said developments after his release from detention on treason charges were not conducive to his stay there. "I had been tipped off that some people were after my life. After Kayiira, I'm being seen as the next head of the UFM. But this is wrong. We have the chairman of the movement, Mr Paul Kalule," he said.

"I have evidence to show that NRA men killed Dr Kayiira. Senior officers in the Army also know this." After being released from detention, he said, Dr Kayiira was always tailed by "hundreds" of soldiers, even to bars. They tailed him even when he went for a funeral in Mukono. On the evening he was shot dead, 10 soldiers were seen within the vicinity of the murder," he said.

After Dr Kayiira's killing, he went underground, he said. "I did not even go for the funeral services for the doctor."

Mr Bwengye said he did not use "panya" [smugglers'] routes. He said he passed through Mbarara and Kabale to look up some relatives there. He then crossed into Rwanda. He said he went through all the customs requirements at the border post and was cleared to enter Rwanda, from where he took a Kenya Airways flight to Nairobi, arriving on Friday night.

CHAD

Fighting Continues in North 20-22 March

FANT: Counterattack Thwarted

AB201909 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Communique No 51 issued by the Chadian National Armed Forces High Command on 20 March in Ndjamena]

[Text] After the crushing defeat suffered by the Libyan enemy, they dared to counterattack at 1000 local time (Bir Kora), situated 45 km from Ouadi Doum. The valiant Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT], more determined than ever, routed them. The outcome of this fighting will be reported to you very soon.

Forward with the FANT!

Victory is ours!

FANT Communique Reports Tally of 20 Mar Fighting

AB212123 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Communique No 52 issued by the FANT High Command issued in Ndjamena; date not given]

[Text] As announced earlier, the valiant FANT routed slave-trader Al-Qadhdhafi's troops following the particularly deadly fighting on the morning of 20 March at (Bir Kora), 45 km from Ouadi Doum. The following is the detailed tally of the fighting:

On the enemy side: A total of 402 Libyans were killed and 74 taken prisoner. The following materiel was seized: 10 BMP tanks, 6 T-55 tanks, 5 tank carriers, 5 BM-21's, eight 122-mm guns, (?16) Mercedes troop carriers, 1 Mercedes [words indistinct], 6 [word indistinct] water tanks, 2 Toyota vehicles equipped with ground-to-ground missiles, 3 Toyota vehicles equipped with 14.5-mm guns, 2 Land Rovers equipped with RF radios, 2 command vehicles, and 12 Toyota troop carriers.

Materiel losses: A transport helicopter was shot down while the following equipment was destroyed: 14 T-55 tanks, 8 BMP tanks, 3 BM-21's, 3 jeeps equipped with 106-mm guns, 2 Toyota vehicles equipped with ground-to-ground missiles, 5 Mercedes troop carriers, 4 tanker vehicles.

On the allies' side, eight men were wounded and a (Venera) vehicle was destroyed.

The FANT troops, who are determined and resolute, will use their nationalist feelings and their unmatched valor to stop the Libyan soldiery's frantic, criminal, and maniacal drive. The FANT will always give them unforgettable lessons.

Libyans Bombs Fada, Yarda

AB212145 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Against the enemy's heavy, sophisticated weapons, the FANT troops have been using their combat readiness and their knowledge. As a result, their irresistible march toward national liberation is going on and is crowned every day with more and more resounding victories. The already long list of victories has been extended to the locality of (Bir Kora), some 45 km away form Ouadi Doum, one of the most important Libyan bases built in our country.

One will therefore understand easily why the Tripoli terrorist (?network) is panic-stricken now. In such a disarray, the Libyan Air Force has been relentlessly bombing Fada and Yarda since 0600 this morning. The targets of this savage and blind bombing are the civilian population. [passage omitted]

5 Libyans Killed at Yarda

AU221557 Paris AFP in English 1532 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Paris, March 22 (AFP) — Five Libyan soldiers and a member of the Chadian government forces were killed in a clash Saturday at Yarda, about 50 kms (30 miles) northwest of Faya-Largeau in northern Chad, the Chadian Embassy here said Sunday.

The embassy said five Chadian soldiers were slightly injured in the fighting, and 15 Libyans had been taken prisoner. Chadian troops also captured nine Soviet-made tanks and destroyed seven others, the embassy said.

61 Libyans Killed Near Zouar

AB221934 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Communique No 55 issued by the FANT in Ndjamena; date not given]

[Text] Since 0400 this morning, 22 March 1987, violent fighting has been going on between our fearless freedom fighters and the Libyan occupation troops at Bir Sherda situated near Zouar. The enemy was put to flight and pursued. Here is the outcome of the fighting:

On the enemy side: 61 Libyans killed; 2 Libyans taken prisoner. The following materiel was captured: 1 jeep equipped with 106-mm cannon, 81 mortars, 1 Land Rover equipped with a (Segol) radio, and several light weapons. The following materiel was destroyed: four Mercedes heavy duty vehicles, two gas tankers, two Toyota troop transport vehicles, and a large quantity of ammunition.

On the allies' side: Six persons were slightly wounded. The valiant FANT will drive the slave-dealing troops from the occupied territory.

Forward, FANT, to the final victory!

FANT: Ouadi Doum Falls

AB222003 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1933 GMT 22 Mar 87

["Important" Communique No 56 issued by the FANT on 22 March in Ndjamena]

[Text] The gigantic and deadly stronghold constructed in our dear country in contempt of our sovereignty fell this day, 22 March 1987, at 1900 [1800 GMT] after fighting whose violence will remain an unforgettable moment in the history of Chad.

Yes, Ouadi Doum, the strongest and most deadly of the enemy positions on Chadian soil is henceforth under total control of the Chadian National Armed Forces. The particularly heavy casualty figures of this terrible fighting will be communicated to you later.

Fearless FANT, glorious freedom fighters, worthy sons of Chad, the fatherland will be grateful to you for eternity.

Victory Shots Banned

AB222133 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Communique of the FANT High Command issued in Ndjamena 22 March 1987]

[Text] The commander in chief of the FANT demands that firing guns in victory be stopped immediately.

Paris Confirms Libyan Defeat

LD231641 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Excerpts] This morning several thousand people held a demonstration in Ndjamena to celebrate the capture of Oaudi Doum, an important air base in northern Chad held up to now by the Libyans. [passage omitted]

In Paris the Ministry of Defense has confirmed the fall of Ouadi Doum to the Chadian National Armed Forces.

[Correspnodent] Daniel Desesquel, you have been able to obtain some details about the fighting.

[Desesquel] The Chadian National Army, 2,500 men strong, attacked the Ouadi Doum base at about 1700 on Sunday; at 1900 everything was over. [passage omitted] Ouadi Doum was a fortress defended by 4,000 Libyan soldiers. About 1,000 of them perished in the fighting; others were either injured or taken prisoner, but the majority fled into the surrounding desert. The equipment recovered is considerable: 50 heavy tanks, about 100 light armored cars, 5 helicopters, 1 (?Mil Mi-8), 4 (?Mil Mi-24's), 5 Machetti planes, 3 Antonov-26 transport planes, and perhaps also 3 Mig-23's, but this has yet to be verified.

Ouadi Doum was an air base, and because of this it was very well protected by radar cover and very well defended by the most modern surface-to-air missiles. Both were either destroyed or captured. Moreover, since 0900 this morning mopping up operations have been taking place at the base, as the military says; that is everything that could not be salvaged has been destroyed. This of course is the case for the runway at Ouadi Doum, which has been made unusable. [passage omitted]

GUNT: Americans in Combat

AB231300 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1235 GMT 23 Mar 87

[GUNT communique issued on 23 March and read by GUNT Information Minister Telero Guidindar Bao]

[Text] Yesterday evening fierce battles raged between the GUNT forces and those of the agent Hissein Habre, supported by the French and Zairian forces, in the zone situated between Ouadi Doum and the (Amour) oasis. The Hissein Habre forces and their ally forces were totally annihilated. A very large number of prisoners were captured, including several troops belonging to the French Foreign Legion and the Zairian Army. (?Twenty-five) troops captured during this fighting admitted that some black Americans were among them. We shall give you the final tally in the upcoming hours, because the mopping up is continuing.

Valiant fighters of the ANL [National Liberation Army], fearless soldiers and commandos of the GUNT, you have just won a brilliant victory over the French, American, and Zairian forces! The entire Chadian people [words indistinct] are presently celebrating the successive victories you have just won. Continue unrelentlessly on this path, because the final victory is very close!

Issued in Bardai on 23 March 1987

[Signed] Minister of Information

GUNT on Ouadi Doum Battle

LD231051 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1025 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Mar (JANA) — Urgent — A spokesman of the legitimate Chadian GUNT [Transitional Government of National Unity] has stated the following to JANA:

U.S., French, and Zairian forces and some soldiers of the agent Habre yesterday attacked Quadi Doum. The GUNT forces intercepted and completely crushed them. The piles of corpses of French and Zairian troops and the remains of the agent Habre's soldiers and the burned-out U.S. and French vehicles are still there at the waterhole, providing evidence of the abominable defeat suffered by the invading imperialist forces.

Thus the forces of the legitimate Chadian GUNT have taught the imperialists and their agents in Chad a lesson they will continue to remember and a lesson that will remain a source of pride for the masses of the Chadian GUNT throughout history.

GUNT Claims Major Victory

AB211957 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1818 GMT 21 Mar 87

["Second war communique" issued by the GUNT in Bardai on 21 March]

[Text] Since the proclamation of a 3-day truce in the fighting by GUNT President Comrade Acheikh ibn Omar in honor of the 10th anniversary of the Great Jamahiriyah, the reactionary Ndjamena group has never stopped venturing into zones under GUNT control. But the FAN soldiers' adventures cannot go unpunished by the intrepid ANL [National Liberation Army] forces.

After FAN defeats at Mourdi, Ouadi Moro, and Ouadi Yerdi, we inform you that the valiant GUNT forces have just given an unforgettable lesson to the puppet forces who once again tried a thoughtless adventure at Ouadi Nanou. The tally is extremely high: More than 713 men defected or were taken prisoners, about 100 others killed, and thousands of men were wounded. A very large quantity of military equipment was destroyed or seized. Furthermore the routed elements have been trying to flee northward to the Jamahiriyah or eastward to Sudan.

Meanwhile, we remind the national and international communities that the declaration of war served by French President Mitterrand on the Chadian people, who are engaged in the national liberation struggle, is a challenge both to independent and sovereign Chad and all of revolutionary Africa. In this vein, Mitterrand's France is trying to level deceitful and gross accusations against the Jamahiriyah to veil its bellicose intention to recolonize Chad.

To Hissein Habre, the GUNT makes it a point to recall that the ANL will not retreat before his colonial allies as long as the national territory is not evacuated by non-African forces.

Lastly, we urge all the valiant GUNT forces in the north, in the south, and in the center of the country to march forward, for the time of liberation has dawned.

Issued at Bardai on 21 March 1987

[Signed] Minister of Information

GUNT Reports Action in South

LD221136 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Bardai, 22 Mar (JANA) — Radio Bardai, the mouthpiece of the legitimate GUNT, broadcast a news item that said that a special group from the Chadian national liberation army forces has carried out today a bold operation in the region of Koukou Angarana deep behind the enemy lines.

This daring operation resulted in the killing of 11 soldiers in the ranks of the agent Habre, more than 4 soldiers being taken prisoner, and control gained over the position. One soldier from the group of the Chadian national liberation army forces that carried out the operation was killed, and two other men from this group were injured.

BENIN

Kerekou Returns From Ivory Coast, Hits Agitators

AB211128 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Excerpts] President Kerekou returned to Cotonou yesterday after leading a high-ranking delegation of the Council of State to the funeral rites of the elder sister of Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. President Kerekou disclosed that he was very satisfied with the spontaneous and popular way in which the Ivorian people expressed their sympathy to the family of the illustrious deceased. [passage omitted]

[Begin Kerekou recording] [passage omitted] The souvenir that we have of this trip is one that must teach us, as the Catholic religion does, that man is nothing but dust and will always return to dust. This represents a lesson to the Beninese revolution requiring it to be effective at all levels. [Passage indistinct]. This means that we put love above all other considerations. For us in Benin, it is a souvenir that encourages us to pursue the revolutionary struggle in our country to construct, stage by stage, the new society where each end every one of us may live well. It is also a souvenir that reminds us that after some 15 years of thrilling, exalting, and active militant life, leaders of the party and the state must not at any time shiver because a small group of sad individuals, called students, are agitating here and there, and more specifically at the Agbomey-Calavi University campus. The myth of agitations, which sweep away regimes, belongs to our country's past. There must be self-control in the face of revived agitations by a few reactionaries. It is the duty of the party and the state to contain them and call to order again all the impenitent agitators, as soon as possible, by expelling them from the national University of Benin so that we can make progress in the building of an independent and prosperous national economy along socialist lines.

We must not allow ourselves at any time to be distracted by a small group of reactionary students. You see, we have returned with the conviction that we must resolutely pursue our struggle against all odds, on behalf of the Beninese people, its vanguard party, the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, and its revolutionary state. We say farewell, Mamie Adwoa Marie-Therese Houphouet-Boigny. Farewell, rest in peace. Ready for the revolution, the struggle continues. [end recording]

GHANA

Government Orders Kumasi University Closed

AB202211 Accra Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] The government has ordered the immediate closure of the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, and all students are to vacate the campus by 1200 tomorrow. A statement by the Ministry of Education and Culture issued this evening said the decision follows acts of hooliganism and the harassment, threatening, and molestation of innocent people during demonstrations by the students of the University of Science and Technology today, apparently on the issue of students' subsidies.

The statement recalled numerous assurances of government officials and the declaration by the chairman of the PNDC at Cape Coast last weekend that government had no intention of withdrawing subsidies during the next academic year.

The ministry's statement further notes that in spite of these and other explanations and assurances by the government, self-seeking political agitators in the university have continued to create an atmosphere of confrontation which now undermines public peace and threatens law and order.

Commentary Supports Closure

AB211722 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT
21 Mar 87

[Abukari Ali commentary]

[Text] Most Ghanaians must have been surprised by the announcement last night of the closure of the University of Science and Technology [UST] by the Ministry of Education and Culture. But, if as the official statement said, the students had resorted to acts of hooliganism and molesting innocent citizens, then the decision to close down the university is political. What cannot be justified is the behavior of the students in seeking to precipitate a crisis over a matter which is still in the arena of public debate. For, over the last several months, there has been vigorous public discussion on the package of educational reforms to be introduced in the country as from the next academic year. There have been specific points on which the public has sought clarification and further explanation, and these have been given in as much detail as possible.

As an ongoing public debate, there may still be points on the educational reforms which require further explanation and government officials and personnel of the Ministry of Education and Culture have given every indication of their preparedness to answer questions and address the various issues of public concern. Even where some of the concerns have been largely founded on rumors and prejudices, the points raised have not been dismissed but discussed. At the annual congregation of the University of Cape Coast held exactly 1 week ago, the chairman of the PNDC restated in unambiguous terms the government's position on the educational reforms. The nation has been told of the preparatory work which has been going on. Some of these have been known to the public. Some of the work has been going on behind the scenes. Above all, the government gave a firm assurance that there was no intention to withdraw feeding and other subsidies in the country's universities.

The issue of these subsidies has been the cause of university students' agitation over the last few months. In the midst of all the agitation, government officials have shown through meetings and other forms of interaction with the student body that avenues were still open for dialogue and discussion. However, the agitators within the student body have adopted positions which clearly indicate their preference for confrontation and acts meant to disrupt normal academic work on the campuses. The incidents recorded during the demonstration of the UST students in Kumasi yesterday clearly indicate that the student agitation is now assuming new forms, and reveal motives other than they would want the public to believe. Earlier on in the month, the students of the University of Ghana and the University of Cape Coast had gone on demonstrations within the confines of the campuses. They did no such thing as disrupting public traffic or harrassing and molesting innocent members of the public. In the case of the other two universities, government proved that it was not against the expression of grievances through demonstrations, provided these were conducted in as decent and peaceful a manner as possible.

The incident at the UST, according to the calculations of the student agitators, was to draw the security agencies into a confrontation which they hoped to use to their advantage. When that strategy failed, their action took those other dimensions which rightly shocked and annoyed the residents of Kumasi. As someone rightly pointed out, that UST demonstration and the ensuing behavior was most uncalled for, coming, at a time when adequate and satisfactory answers had been given to their questions. Yesterday, it was no longer the question of feeding subsidies, but a rejection of the whole educational reform package. Yet in 1985, the executives of this same student body had in a memorandum agreed on the need for the reforms, and even went ahead to make suggestions on issues of implementation and others.

Today, the story is different, and to this new position has been added the politics of violence and confrontation. It is said that by the eve of the UST demonstration, several of the students not sharing the stand of the agitators left the campus. The closure of the school will therefore be a blow to them. For those who have not shared the position of the agitators, this is the time to let them know the terms under which they are prepared to accommodate them as their executives and spokesmen. Naturally, those executives will attempt to get the other two universities to support them in a solidarity demonstration or some action.

However, one only hopes that the good sense they displayed during their demonstrations will again be evident when the agitators approach them. In the final analysis, what is important to note is that unruly and irrational actions as demonstrated by the UST students will have to be dealt ith decisively. It should be the hope of all Ghanaians that good sense and moderation will prevail on all our campuses.

Cultural Agreement Signed With Soviet Society

AB220927 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] The Ghana-USSR Friendship Society and the USSR-Ghana Society yesterday signed a cultural agreement in Accra. The president of the Ghana Society, Mr Johnny Hansen, signed for Ghana while the president of the USSR Society, Mr Loginov, signed for his society.

Under the agreement, the USSR will offer 62 scholarships to Ghanaian students in various fields including education, the social sciences, trade, and medicine to train in the USSR. Ten other scholarships will go to Soviet-trained students for postgraduate courses in the USSR. There will also be cultural exchanges between the peoples of the two countries.

In a short speech, Mr Johnny Hansen praised the USSR for her contribution to Ghana, especially in the cultural field, and hoped for greater cultural exchanges between the two countries. Mr Hansen spoke about Ghana's commitment to peace in the world and called on other countries to join her to achieve this.

Mr Loginov, who is leading a Soviet delegation to Ghana, said his delegation has had fruitful discussions with Ghanaians. He observed that peace cannot be achieved unless all peoples of the world join in the fight. Mr Loginov hoped the two friendship societies would serve as forums for promoting world peace.

GUINEA

President Conte Departs for Kuwait 20 March

AB202158 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The head of state, General Lansana Conte, left Conakry this evening at 1835 hours for Kuwait. The visit is at the invitation of the amir of Kuwait, His Highness Jabir al-Sabah. The invitation was extended to General Conte during the Fifth ICO Summit last January. It will permit the leaders of Guinea and Kuwait to examine ways to strengthen cooperation between the two countries. [passage omitted]

LIBERIA

BBC Interviews Opposition Leader on Doe Regime

AB201245 London BBC World Service in English
1730 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Telephone interview with Liberian Opposition Movement for Justice in Africa President Togba Naa Tipoteh in The Hague by "Network Africa" program host Hilton File in London on 19 March; recorded]

[Text] Tomorrow marks the 14th anniversary of MOJA, Liberia, the Movement for Justice in Africa. MOJA's leaders were prominent in the events that led up to the overthrow and assassination of former Liberian President William Tolbert. Well, on the eve of tomorrow's anniversary, a MOJA statement is out criticizing President Doe's government for allowing a group of American financial advisers to go to Liberia and help manage the economy. MOJA calls this colonization, and MOJA also is critical of the banning of the teachers union in Liberia. Last night [19 March], I called up the president, Dr Togba Naa Tipoteh, who lives in The Hague as an exile. I asked him if MOJA hadn't now lost its drive.

[Begin recording] [Tipoteh] We think not. You will recall, I am sure, the formation of the Liberian People's Party [LPP], as declared in 1984 after the ban on politics was lifted. The LPP was formed by MOJA. It is the party of MOJA, and it is essentially because of our patriotic and democratic activities in the interest of Liberian people that today we remain the only political party banned in Liberia. I think you will agree with me that a government doesn't ban a party for nothing, if it's not threatened by that party.

[File] So you are saying MOJA is still alive and active inside Liberia today in spite of the fact that you, its president, are outside and exile?

[Tipoteh] Definitely.

[File] You, in the early stages of the Doe regime, served as a minister under Mr Doe himself — then he was a military man; now he is a civilian president. Do you today feel that perhaps you made a mistake in not studying the man properly before actually going into an alignment with him?

[Tipoteh] I didn't make a mistake. My decision was based on the fact that I proceeded on what our people wanted at the time. You will recall that we worked very hard after [words indistinct] regime to set up the constitutional commission, and this commission was headed, of course, by a member of our leadership, Dr Sawyer, and played no small role in raising further the conscience of Liberian people to the point where they, in fact, then began to see the true nature of the regime, and we saw concrete manifestation of that in the October 1985 election,

[File] So it was with that in mind that you went in and served as a minister?

[Tipoteh] Yes, and I had no contact with Doe prior to that, but I went in because the people of Liberia would not have understood my not going in. So the idea was to go in and try to institutionalize certain (?types) of democratic forces that will render the regime nonexistent in a relatively short time.

[File] Did you believe in him at that time?

[Tipoteh] No, I did not. [end recording]

MALI

Prime Minister Receives Iranian Delegation

AB201152 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] The prime minister, Prof Mamadou Dambele, received the Iranian deputy minister of Islamic guidance, (Mostafa Mohaden), accompanied by the Iranian ambassador to Mali, in audience this morning. The two personalities reviewed bilateral and international relations. The prime minister was pleased with the two countries' covergent views on issues regarding the Nonalignment Movement. (Seyyed Mostafa Tai Mohaden), who is leading a delegation of Iranian parliamentarians and men of culture, is bearer of a message from President Khamene'i to General Moussa Traore.

The deputy minister was also received by Mrs Gakou Fatou Niang, minister of information and telecommunications. They stressed the need to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the area of information and telecommunications. With Bakary Traore, minister of culture, arts and sports, he discussed the exchange of arts and culture, especially through arts exhibitions and the showing of Iranian films in Mali, and Malian films in Iran. Minister Bakary Traore emphasized that our country attaches much importance to the role of culture in the national development.

The speaker of parliament also received the Iranian deputy minister for Islamic guidance. After exchanging information on the organization of their respective assemblies, the two personalities agreed on the need to hold meetings to bring them together. Sidiki Diarra reaffirmed our parliament's determination to work to improve ties of cooperation between the two assemblies.

President Receives Envoy

AB211052 Bamako Domestic Service in French
1500 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the Republic, received this morning (Mostafa Mohaden), Iran's deputy minister of Islamic guidance, who delivered a message from President Khamene'i to the head of state. The Iranian envoy expressed his delegation's deep appreciation to the Malian people, the party, and government for the warm reception, hospitality, and helpfulness of each and every person. (Mostafa Mohaden) stressed the desire of the Iranian authorities to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the two countries in all areas. In this regard, he recalled the great Islamic family, the 'umar, which preaches the noble virtues of peace, unity, solidarity, and mutual reciprocity. One way to strengthen relations between our brotherly peoples is to get to know each other better through exchanges in all sectors and to resist acculturation, the Iranian deputy minister of Islamic guidance observed.

Earlier, (Mostafa Mohaden) praised the efforts of the party and government of Mali to improve the welfare of the people.

For his part, the president recalled the history of the influence of the Persian civilization and the effort by the Iranian people to preserve their identity in national development. After recalling his discussions with President Ali Khamene'i in Harare during the nonaligned summit, President Moussa Traore underscored their convergent views on current issues such as development in peace, understanding, solidarity, increasing South-South cooperation, and the struggle against apartheid and Zionism. President Moussa Traore seized this opportunity to extend his friendly and fraternal greetings to Imam Khamene'i and wished much success to the Iranian revolution in the task of nation building.

The audience took place in the presence of Dr Ngolo Traore, permanent undersecretary to the president; [name indistinct], adviser on diplomatic affairs; and press attache (Sona Mati Kone).

Mr (Mohaden) spoke to Soumana Toure at the end of the audience.

[Begin recording] [(Mohaden) in Persian with superimposed French translation][Words indistinct] I delivered a message from the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran to his excellency the president of Mali. I explained Iran's cultural policies. I explained that because Iran and Mali share identical views on (?political) issues, it is quite normal for the two countries to maintain cultural cooperation. The president gave a very open and frank response to this request, and he added that he (?would make every effort) to develop cultural relations between our two countries. He charged me to convey his greetings to the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Khamene'i.

[Toure], Mr Minister, after these discussions, should we expect the visit of a Malian delegation to Iran?

[Zadene] Yes, during our discussions with the ministers and during our meeting with the president, we asked that a high-level Malian delegation be sent to Iran as soon as possible to discuss ways to implement the proposals that we have made, and his excellency the president accepted our proposals. [end recording]

3 Spanish Reporters Said To Face 23 Mar Expulsion

AB230935 London BBC World Service in English 0730 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Three Spanish journalists detained in Mali are to be expelled from the country today. The journalists have been held in a hotel in Bamako and their passports have been confiscated. *Reuter News Agency* quoted one of them denying accusations that they had falsified documents and entered Mali illegaly. He said the authorities have indicated they will be put on a plane to Paris. The journalists have gone to Mali to report on whether two suspected Basque separatists expelled from Algeria were traveling to Bamako. Mali has denied that the two Basques are in the country.

NIGERIA

Open-Air Religious Preaching Banned in Plateau

AB201534 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] All open-air religious activities have been banned in Plateau State. Normal worships by Muslims on Fridays and Christians on Sundays are, however, allowed. Announcing this in Jos, Governor Lawrence Onaja said the ban was in the interest of peaceful coexistence in the state. The ban also affects religious broadcasts on both radio and television. Similar bans have been imposed in many states of the federation following the recent religious disturbances in some parts of Kaduna State.

Papers Support Babangida on Religious Unrest

AB201055 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Mar 87

[From the press review]

[Text] *The Guardian* and the *Nigerian Observer* write on President Ibrahim Babangida's broadcast on the recent religious disturbances in Kaduna State. The papers support measures announced by the president to guard against a recurrence. Nevertheless, *The Guardian* feels that the ban on all special religious associations in higher institutions does not go far enough. The paper wants the government to extend the ban to open-air religious revivals and meetings and the use of loudspeakers outdoors or on moving vehicles for preaching. It also advises the government to disengage itself totally from sponsorship of religion, however indirect.

The *Observer*, on its part, enjoins all Nigerians to wage a war against sectarianism and factionalism and to ignore their agents in future.

THE MAIL Backs President

AB221000 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Mar 87

[From the press review]

[Text] *The Mail*, writing on the recent religious disturbances in Kaduna State, agrees with the president that the riots were carefully planned and masterminded by evil men with sinister motives. The paper, however, wonders how long Nigerians will continue to suffer and die for the selfish ones to have their way. Nonetheless, *The Mail* is consoled in the assurance by President Babangida that the brains behind the Kaduna riots will be dealt with. It asserts that the greatest good the administration can do to itself and to the nation is to disabuse the minds of the public that there are people in the country who can do as they please and get away with it.

Nigeria To Chair 'Medium Power' Concept Group

AB201040 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Nigeria has been appointed chairman of the 16-nation group exploring the concept of medium power. Nigeria will also coordinate the program of the group, which has adopted the name Lagos Forum.

A director general in the External Affairs Ministry, Mr Peter Afolabi, told newsmen that membership would be limited to countries that were not militarily aligned.

Countries that attended the 3-day meeting included India, Egypt, Malaysia, Indonesia, Senegal, Algeria, and Zimbabwe. Others were Austria, Sweden, Brazil, Switzerland, Venezuela, Argentina, Mexico, Yugoslavia, and the host country, Nigeria.

Research Headquarters Agreement Signed With OAU

AB212040 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Nigeria and the Organization of African Unity, OAU, have signed the OAU Scientific, Technical, and Research Commission Headquarters Agreement. The minister of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, signed on behalf of the Federal Government, while the secretary general of the OAU, Mr Ide

Oumarou, who is on a visit to Nigeria, initialled for the organization. Professor Akinyemi explained that by the signing of the agreement, Nigeria has formalized and consolidated the legal status of the research commission in Lagos. The minister reiterated Nigeria's continued support for and commitment to the OAU, which he said was the only continental organization of its kind in the world today.

The OAU secretary general commended the Federal Government for not waiting for the final signing of the agreement before taking the necessary action, but rather permitting such commission to take off in Lagos. He expressed gratitude to Nigeria for paying her subscriptions to the OAU regularly. By this measure, he noted, the country has shown its commitment to the achievement of the ideals of the continental body's research objectives.

The Scientific and Technical Commission is one of the four specialized commissions established by the OAU 24 years ago. It is charged with the dissemination of scientific knowledge in the continent through its publications, research, and training.

ANGOLA

Official Urges 'Good Organization' in Churches

MB211601 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Comrade Roberto de Almeida, secretary for ideology, information, and culture of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, said yesterday that every believer or church member should consider himself a patriot above all else, a patriot subject to the laws and obligations of the society in which he lives. In a meeting yesterday with representatives of churches recognized by the Angolan Government, Comrade Roberto de Almeida emphasized that the incidents on (?5) February in Luanda's Terra Nova suburb with the 18 classes, 16 tribes religious sect [as heard] were a blot on relations between government and churches which refuse to follow party guidelines. Roberto de Almeida said the party wished that every church would have good organization, defined hierarchy, and a forum for debating issues of common interest.

The Angolan secretary for ideology, information, and culture said that after the proclamation of independence and with the return to Angola of many exiled compatriots, several religious sects had appeared; some were created to mask illicit, profitable, or even revolutionary activities. Comrade Roberto de Almeida noted that in the current situation there is no place for an indifferent or neutral church on the issue of massacres and excesses committed against a peaceful population, especially when people from these religous institutions had stood up in the past against colonial terrorism and now that the modern church is more and more concerned about the future of mankind.

Dos Santos Appoints New Communications Minister

MB230630 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Carlos Antonio Fernandes was appointed the new Angolan minister of transport and communications yesterday. He replaces Manuel Bernardo de Sousa, who was dismissed by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola [words indistinct]. (?These decrees) signed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos were published yesterday effectively dismissing Cuando Cubango Provincial Commissioner (Manuel das Torres) and Lunda Norte Provincial Commissioner Francisco Moises de Melo.

People's Assembly Names Commission Members

MB210803 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The second legislature of the People's Assembly will include 13 working commissions to implement specific activities and tasks. A solution signed by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, announced that the following commissions have been constituted: defense, security, and internal order; planning, finance, banking, foreign trade, and international cooperation: construction, housing, urbanization, water affairs, and transport and communications; industry, energy and petroleum; and agriculture, livestock, and fishing. Commissions for constitutional and legal affairs to deal with citizens' suggestions and complaints have also been created for the following bodies: popular power; education, science, and culture; sports and religion; health; community affairs; work and security; external relations; and social, youth, and children's affairs.

These commissions will be coordinated by Deputies Pedro Maria Tonha, Maria Mambo Cafe, Kundi Payama, Juliao Mateus Paulo, Adriano Sebastiao, Lucio Lara, Roberto de Almeida, Pascoal Luvualu, (Jacinto Venancio Xipoupa), Afonso van Dunem, and Paulo Miguel Junior.

According to another resolution resulting from the constitutional session of the second legislature of the People's Assembly, the Standing Commission will include the following deputies: Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Antonio dos Santos Franca, Afonso Domingos Pedro van Dunem, Pascoal Luvualu, Pedro Maria Tonha, Pedro de Castro dos Santos van Dunem, Roberto Antonio Vitor de Almeida, Francisco Magalhaes Paiva, Juliao Mateus Paulo, Manuel Alexandre Rodrigues, Kundi Payma, Antonio Jacinto do Amaral Martins, and Maria Mambo Cafe. The People's Assembly Standing Commission also includes the following deputies: (Jacinto Venancio Xipoupa), Paulo Miguel Junior, Santana Andre Pitra, Maria Ruth Neto, Adriano Sebastiao, Antonio Henriques da Silva, Augusto Teixeira de Matos, Fernando Jose de Franca van Dunem, and Evaristo Domingos.

The resolution from the supreme organ of state power finally indicates that Deputies Henrique de Carvalho Santos, Manuel Bernardo de Sousa, Ines Fernandes, Antonio Vasconcelos, (Jose Manuel Calinga Cal), Elias Macusse, (Manuel Mujinga da Cunha), and (Zeferino Cassaimbo) are also part of the People's Assembly Standing Commission.

UNITA Captures Town, Destroys Navigation Center

MB210717 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The UNITA movement says it has killed 48 Angolan government troops in attacks in which it captured a town and destroyed a coastal navigation center. In a statement released in Lisbon, UNITA said its forces lost 9 dead and 18 wounded. The statement said UNITA had attacked the light at Quicombo port in Cuanza Sul Province, destroying the navigation control center. It also says that UNITA has captured the town of Ebo, southwest of Quibala in Cuanza Sul Province.

BOTSWANA

Soviet Delegation Arrives for 2-Day Visit

MB230817 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1910 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] A high-powered delegation of a parliamentary group from the Soviet Union headed by the vice president, Mr Gilashvili, [title as heard], arrived in Botswana this evening for a 2-day private visit to the country. The visit, which includes [passage indistinct]. The other purpose of the visit is to deeply strengthen the friendly existing relations between the Soviet Union and the frontline countries, and share views on common interests in the region. According to the Soviet vice president, the visit will enable his delegation to help (?get) information on matters which are troubling the people in the subregion. He said the most important question in the struggle for independence in southern African countries was apartheid, a theme which he said he discussed at high level with the leaders of Mozambique and Zambia, the countries [words indistinct].

Botswana, Mr Gilashvili said, was playing a very important role in the struggle against (?that evil), a theme, which, he said, (words indistinct] both the Soviet Union and Botswana to follow [words indistinct].

While in Botswana the delegation will meet the president, Dr Quett Masire; the vice president and minister of finance and development planning, Mr Peter Mmusi; and the minister of external affairs, Dr Chiepe. The delegation will also meet the country's members of parliament and visit the Botswana Meat Commission in Lobatse on Tuesday. The Soviet vice president will hold a press conference prior to his departure on Wednesday.

MOZAMBIQUE

Dos Santos Returns From Angola, Cape Verde Trips

MB211444 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1100 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The Frelimo Party Political Bureau member and chairman of Mozambique's parliament, the People's Assembly, Marcelino dos Santos, returned to Maputo yesterday after a month of visits to Cape Verde and the People's Republic of Angola. He was received on arrival at the airport by the secretary of the Standing Commission of the People's Assembly, Fernando Ganhao.

Mr Dos Santos expressed satisfaction over the visits, which, he said, enabled him to get a (?better knowledge) about efforts being made toward consolidating the independence of the two countries.

Culture Minister Returns From Portugal, UK

MB220852 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0800 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Minister of Culture Luis Bernardo Honwana returned to Mozambique today after being received by Portuguese Prime Minister Cavaco e Silva in Lisbon yesterday. Luis Bernardo Honwana delivered a message from President Joaquim Chissano to the Portuguese prime minister.

Before this, Luis Bernardo Honwana visited London, where he attended the (?Hilton Park) annual conference, which this year concentrated on the following themes: the confronting of apartheid and options for South Africans, the Frontline States, and the West.

Comments on Talks in UK

MB221548 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1400 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Mozambican Minister of Culture Luis Bernardo Honwana has said that there is a climate of notable understanding of Mozambican problems in London and there is also an evident readiness on the part of the British Government to help Mozambique solve these problems. Luis Bernardo Honwana was speaking in Lisbon after a meeting with the Portuguese prime minister, Cavaco Silva, to whom he delivered a message from President Joaquim Chissano. In London, Luis Bernardo Honwana attended the Hilton Park annual conference and held meetings with Geoffrey Howe, secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, and Lynda Chalker, assistant secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs.

Famine Threatens Half of Tete Population

MB230634 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] The number of famine victims in Tete Provinces has risen to 620,000. This figure represents half of Tete's entire population. According to Rocha Mabunga, director of the provincial Department of Prevention and Fight Against Natural Disasters, by the end of 1986 there were 458,000 people in need of emergency food aid due to the drought and armed bandit action.

SOUTH AFRICA

Pik Botha Warns Whites Against Isolation

LD221127 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has called on the whites of South Africa not to isolate themselves behind apartheid to such an extent that they cannot see the move towards the creation of a fair dispensation in the country. Mr Botha has told a public meeting near Pretoria that he is not prepared to make war to maintain apartheid. He said there would be an opportunity to find a peaceful solution to the problems of South Africa for as long as the various population groups acknowledged each other's religious, cultural, and other differences. Mr Botha said it was not wrong for black people who were prepared to cooperate with the whites to be accommodated in a fair system.

Criticizes Right-Wing Whites

MB220524 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0500 GMT
22 Mar 87

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, says it is ironic that the black leaders who are prepared to negotiate a new dispensation with the government are reviled by the white right-wing political parties. Mr Botha told a meeting at Potgietersrus that it was not wrong to accommodate black people in a just dispensation. He said these people sometimes had to suffer because of their cooperaton with the whites. They were prepared to continue their cooperation and to help the country evade sanctions despite the fact that because of this their children were being murdered and their property destroyed.

Pik Botha: U.S. 'Pressure' Causes Israeli Action

MB200918 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0911 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria, March 20, SAPA — Israel's adoption of sanctions against South Africa was the direct result of U.S. pressure, Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha said in Pretoria today.

"I take note of the announcement of the Israeli Government on its relations with South Africa," he said in a statement.

"The decision of the Israeli Government is clearly a direct result of pressure by the United States. The measures announced, however, do not go further than those adopted by European countries."

Israeli Ambassador Briefs Tutu

TA201625 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Mar 87 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Refa'el Mann]

[Text] Israeli Ambassador to South Africa David Ari'el held a meeting yesterday with Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu, one of the black leaders fighting apartheid.

The meeting had been scheduled long ago, before the decision to reduce Israel's relations with South Africa, but the ambassador seized the opportunity to brief Tutu about the decision of the Inner Cabinet in Jerusalem.

According to a report arriving in Jerusalem, the meeting was held in a good atmosphere. In the past Tutu harshly criticized Israel for its relations with the white regime and said that it was inconceivable that Jews who had suffered oppression and persecution should lend a hand to the oppression of Palestinians.

Botha Announces New Ambassador to France

MB201918 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Mr Hendrik Albertus Geldenhuis, the chief director of the Department of Foreign Affairs Africa desk, has been appointed as the new South African ambassador to France. He succeeds Dr Robert du Plooy, who is returning to South Africa. This was announced today by Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha. Mr Geldenhuis has previously served in the embassies in Ottawa, Berne, and Cologne, after which he became the South African ambassador in Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, and Switzerland.

Police Deny Further Deaths in KwaMashu

MB200736 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0730 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Durban, Mar 20, SAPA — A police spokesman in Durban today denied a report that the bodies of two more black teenagers had been found in KwaMashu. The finding of these bodies would have brought up to nine the number discovered in the black township outside Durban, following the confirmation of seven bodies there earlier this week.

But it remained "tense but quiet in KwaMashu," the spokesman, Captain Bob Sanker, said.

A mass stay-away by schoolchildren was reported from KwaMashu today, on the eve of "Heroes Day," to mark the Sharpeville shootings on 21 March, 1960.

Tension was still running high between respective supporters of Inkatha and the UDF, it was also reported.

Police Arrest 6 Blacks

MB200958 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Durban murder and robbery squad detectives have arrested six black men in connection with the killing of seven black school children at KwaMashu. The arrests were made last night after the detectives had worked around the clock. The bodies of the children had been found in a ditch in the township. Our Durban staff reports that the men are expected to appear in court soon.

Home Affairs Director Explains ID Demands

MB201319 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1259 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria March 20 SAPA — Police and immigration inspectors are demanding identity documents from blacks to protect permanent residents from illegal residents and workers, the director general of home affairs, Mr Gerrie van Zyl, said in a statement today. It was released in reaction to various newspaper reports regarding blacks and the new ID book.

"It appears from the reports that these statements were made by the Black Sash without first obtaining the correct facts from the department," Mr van Zyl said. He said his department experienced no problems in processing applications for the new document. He said social pension applicants need not present the new ID document.

"What is happening in practice is that persons applying for pensions are encouraged to apply for the new identity document as soon as possible."

The department already received 3.5 million applications for the new ID document, he said.

Tutu, ANC Agree To Disagree on Tactics

MB220638 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Archbishop Desmond Tutu says he has agreed to disagree with the ANC on some key issues. The Anglican leader is presently in Lusaka, where he has held what his office calls his first official talks with the banned organization. A source close to ANC says Archbishop Tutu and the ANC leaders agreed on a strategy of replacing apartheid with a nonracial democratic system of government, but disagreed on the tactics to be adopted. Further meetings are planned for today, and Archbishop Tutu will also meet formally with Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda before returning home this afternoon.

Downplays Worrall Resignation

MB221318 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Archbishop Desmond Tutu, due to return to South Africa today after talks with the ANC, says recent resignations have given the upcoming white elections some significance. Answering questions in Lusaka, Archbishop Tutu said the resignation of Denis Worrall is insignificant because he and other National Party opponents are not calling for the complete abolition of apartheid. However, he said, the resignation of Stellenbosch academic Sampie Terreblanche has changed the course of events. He said, with this latest act of rebellion against the National Party, President P.W. Botha is wondering why he called the election.

Holds 'Friendly' Talks With ANC

MB221825 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1824 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg, March 22, SAPA — To think that the African National Congress would not be part of the negotiations for a new constitution for South Africa and was not a very significant factor in the country's political future would be to have one's head buried in the sand, Archbishop Desmond Tutu said today. Speaking at a press conference on his arrival at Jan Smuts Airport following two days of talks with Oliver Tambo and other ANC leaders in Lusaka, the Nobel peace laureate and Anglican archbishop said it was the first time he had been able to meet such a large section of the ANC leadership.

He described the meeting as consistent with his normal practice of attempting to see leaders of the "liberation movements" and also consistent with "the desire of the synod of bishops that the church keep in touch with all the major actors in the drama that is unfolding in our country."

Archbishop Tutu described his five hours of talks yesterday as "very friendly, very frank and full. We talked about the situation here at home, and the ANC expressed concern at the fighting between blacks and asked whether the church wouldn't do something to achieve unity. I said we were doing all we could to be peace makers."

"I repeated my position that I support the ANC's objective to dismantle apartheid and bring about a non-racial, democratic, just society, and that I am opposed to all forms of violence, the institutionalised violence of apartheid and the violence of those who oppose it. I was basically asking them to review their own position, to consider the renunciation of violence in order to throw the ball back into the court of the South African Government, which has said it will not negotiate with anyone who espouses violence.

"I want to stress, these (the ANC) are not bloodthirsty vampires, they are people who love the country passionately and want to see a new dispensation in our country. One of the great sadnesses is that people in South Africa are not given the opportunity of encountering the ANC leadership as they really are, but it is difficult for that without something dramatic having happened here." The archbishop said the most dramatic thing that could happen would be the release of ANC and other political leaders from prison.

He said the ANC was not committed to violence as a matter of principle, but as one of tacts [as received] and strategy to which they had been driven by their banning 27 years ago. "I believe it is important that South Africans be free to judge for themselves the true nature of the ANC, rather than be given distorted views through selective quotations."

Archbishop Tutu, who also held talks with Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda today, said Pres Kaunda had told him it might take "more than just one meeting to bring the ANC to see some of the points I was trying to covey to them."

The archbishop said that in order for negotiations to take place, certain important preconditions would have to be met by all who were committed to a negotiated settlement. "The state of emergency must be lifted, the troops must be removed from the townships, detainees must be released, exiles must be able to return without reprisals, and the political organisations of the people must be unbanned.

"We in the church will continue to strive for that ideal in our land."

Referring again to the issue of a cessation of violence, Archbishop Tutu said that if apartheid were dismantled immediately, there would be no justification for the continuation of violence. He described the government and the ANC as "holding pistols at one another's heads" and said the church was trying to bring them together. He blamed the government for the stand-off, saying "it is precisely the position of the South African Government, who are saying that if things don't go as they wish, they will continue the status quo."

He said Oliver Tambo could quote abroad South African statistics that the ANC had caused 80 deaths in the period from 1976 to 1984, and that security forces had been responsible for 2000 since 1984, and asked: "Now who is the violent one?"

On the issue of the release of Nelson Mandela, the archbishop said it was important for the ANC to be able to say to its own constituents, "there is a dramatic change in the situation and requires that we look again at how we obtain our objectives."

On the issue of the ANC's links with the Communist Party, the archbishop said he had "no problems" with the view that some members of the Communist Party were also ANC members and the alliance was historical. "Oliver Tambo has no problems with this. I also have no problems. Why did the West have the Soviet Union as an ally when fighting Hitler — it's a matter of the enemy of my enemy being my friend."

Archbishop Tutu said that two weeks ago he would have said the May 6 election for whites was simply a racist election and a non-event. "But the resignation of editor Wimpie de Klerk, and David de Villiers and the forthright statement from Stellenbosch seems to change the nature of the ball-game to some extent."

Of the ANC, he said, "the important thing is that those people belong here. Some have been away since 1966. The last thing they want is not to be able to come home, but they have to come home with honour. They have given a very great deal and have to be recognised for what they are — South Africans." When these people were recognised as South Africans, "we will be a long way to solving our problems." Archbishop Tutu said he was hoping "desperately to get South Africans to talk as South Africans. Can you imagine when those people (the ANC) come back home and South Africans are working together for the common good of the country?"

P.W. Botha Announces May Workers Holiday

MB211205 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The state president, Mr P.W. Botha, has announced that a new public holiday for workers is to be introduced from this year. Speaking at a ceremony to mark the centenary at Boksburg, President Botha said the first Friday in May would in future be known as Workers Day. The other public holidays would be investigated by the President's Council, with special reference to the composition of the population and its communities. Republic Day, religious holidays, and those with a religious emphasis would not be affected by the investigation. He said the President's Council would be asked to advise him about which holidays.

Referring to salary increases for public servants, President Botha said it would be irresponsible to take a decision at this stage before the budget had been finalized. He emphasized, however, that everything possible would be done to take a decision as soon as possible. He said a great responsibility rested with employers and employees in both the public and private sectors to consider salary adjustments in a realistic way.

Advertisement Gives Reasons to Vote for PFP

MB220835 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 22 Mar 87 p 10

[Full-page advertisement issued by the Progressive Federal Party]

[Text] I'm going to vote PFP because I believe that there's something wrong in my country and the PFP has a new answer.

I am going to vote PFP because I don't believe the Government has a plan to fix things.

I'm going to vote PFP because patriotic South Africans I respect are speaking out against this Government's mismanagement.

I'm going to vote PFP because I want to be associated with those people.

I'm going to vote PFP because their withdrawal from Randburg, Helderberg and Stellenbosch proves they put the country ahead of the party

I'm going to vote PFP because they have had the courage to put aside party politics to form an alliance of moderates to get rid of apartheid.

I'm going to vote PFP because I believe they can be the catalyst for a strong and determined alternative government.

I'm going to vote PFP because they have leadership with vision

I'm going to vote PFP because I want a new, better South Africa with security for me, security for my family and security for all South Africans.

I'm going to vote PFP.

Winnie Mandela Repaid 62,000 Rand on ANC Ad Loan

MB201452 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1244 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Johannesburg March 20 SAPA — Mrs Winnie Mandela gave the United Democratic Front R62,000 to help it repay an R100,000 overdraft that financed advertisements calling for the unbanning of the African National Congress.

The national treasurer of the UDF, Mr Azhar Cachalia, told the Mummik Commission today he asked for her help to repay the debt owed to Mr Yusuf Surtee, who raised an R100,000 overdraft to finance the advertisements. About R40,000 had been provided from other sources at that stage.

She was "very sympathetic and supportive" and identified completely with the sentiments of the advertisements, he said. Mr Cachalia said he received the money, in bank notes, on January 23, "very much as a gift." He did not ask where the money came from.

Initially Mrs Mandela was referred to as the "person" who was the benefactor. The advocate presenting evidence to the commission, Mr H.F. van Zyl, asked Mr Cachalia to disclose her name. Mr Cachalia said he obtained Mrs Mandela's consent to reveal her name.

"In hindsight if I had asked her I would probably have been able to raise the full amount," he said.

On January 2, Mr Cachalia asked Johannesburg businessman, Mr Yusuf Surtee, to provide the R100,000 needed to pay for the advertisement. Other repayments to Mr Surtee came from the National Education Crisis Committee (R6000), the Soweto Civic Association (R3000) and the Federation of Transvaal Women (R20,000).

The chairman of the commission is Mr Justice G. Munnik.

WEEKLY MAIL Carries 'Apartheid Barometer'

MB210951 Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English 20-26 Mar 87 p 4

["Apartheid Barometer"]

[Text] Detentions

Today is the 282nd day of the current State of Emergency. On February 12 the Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, released the names of 3,857 detainees who had been held under the Emergency Regulations for 30 days or more. This brings to 13,194 the total number of names released by the government.

The Detainees Parents' Support Committee [DPSC] said in their latest report on the Emergency they are aware of "several detainees who were held for 30 days or more earlier in the Emergency and have been redetained and once again held for 30 days or more". The DPSC said the figure of 13,194 excludes all detainees who have been held for less than 30 days, several mass detentions and those detained since February 12.

The DPSC estimates that at least 25,000 people have been detained under the Emergency regulations so far. This figure does not include those detained under the Internal Security Act or under the security legislation of the "independent homelands" since the start of the Emergency.

Unrest Deaths

According to figures released in parliament by the Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, 304 people were killed in unrest-related incidents between July 1986 and January 1987. Of these, 69 were killed by security forces and 22 by municipal officers. Twelve members of the security forces were killed. Vlok said most of the other deaths were caused by "radicals." According to Vlok, there were 21 unrest deaths in October, 25 in November, 41 in December, 34 in January and 16 in February. The South African Institute of Race Relations said that at least 39 people died in political violence in February, but stressed that the real number of deaths could be higher, because of the difficulties in gathering such data.

Deaths in Police Custody

The Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, said in parliament that 83 people died in police custody last year. He said that "in not one of the 43 instances finalised have the presiding officers in their findings laid blame on the South African Police." Vlok said 27 died of natural causes, 12 committed suicide, three died as a result of shooting wounds when they tried to escape, one was stabbed by fellow prisoners and the inquests into the deaths of the remaining 40 have not yet been finalised.

Conscientious Objection

According to figures released in parliament, 342 people were granted full religious objector status (category 3) by the Board for Religious Objection. Two hundred twenty-seven were Jehovah's Witnesses and 115 belonged to other denominations. In 1985 the figure was 266 and in 1984 it was 155.

Between the beginning of 1984 and August 1986 a total of 1,059 people had applied to the Board for religious objector status. One hundred twenty-three of these applications were subsequently withdrawn. By September 1986, 16 applications had been refused by the board, either because the applicants' religious views did not conform with the board's criteria or because the applications were believed to be politically motivated. One of the 16 applicants refused Philiph Wilkinson, a practising Catholic who spent five months in detention under the Emergency regulations, is being tried for failing to report for military service. Wilkinson, who has completed his national service and three camps, will appear in court on March 26. He could face more than two years in prison.

Prior to 1983, when the Defence Act was amended to allow for religious objection, 13 people who fell outside of the established "peace churches" had been charged with failing to report.

Border Toll

The minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, said in parliament that in 1986, 761 people were killed or injured by the SA Defence Force in the operational area. He said 645 of these people were "terrorists." He did not reveal any details about the other 116.

Prisoner of Conscience

Sue Lund, 23, Grahamstown rural Committee fieldworker, was detained under the Emergency regulations on November 22 last year.

Lund joined the National Union of SA Students (Nusas) at Rhodes University seven years ago, later serving as chairperson of the local committee and a member of the national council. After completing on honours degree in sociology she worked as a tutor for Rhodes University and for the Grahamstown Voice community newspaper. She represented the Grahamstown Democratic Action Committee, which she helped to establish, on the United Democratic Front regional general council and the UDF Grahamstown area committee. She also served as Grahamstown publicity secretary for the End Conscription Campaign in 1985 and was a member of the Black Sash.

She was detained under the previous Emergency regulations and held for two weeks in solitary confinement. Over the past four years she has been the victim of several attacks on her home, person and motor car, allegedly by rightwing assailants. She was detained on November 22 while attending a meeting of residents from Thornhill resettlement camp in the Ciskei and is currently being held in Northend Prison in Port Elizabeth.

Banned Books, Publications and Objects

Banned for Possession: *Blanke Werker — Jou Toekoms Le Uitsluitelik in a Ware Demokrasie* [*White Worker — Your Future Lies Exclusively in a True Democracy*]. — pamphlet (South African Communist party); *Unity Is Our Main Weapon of Struggle* (ANC Lusaka, Zambia); *Workers' Unity No 621986* (SACTU) [South African Congress of Trade Unions]; *Change is Pain* — casette (Mzwakhe); *Marxism Today* — December 1986 (Communist Party, London); *Revolutionary Internationalist*, Issue No 3 Sept/Oct 1986 (not stated); *The Burning Spear* Vol 13 No 4, July 1986 (African People's Socialist Party, Oakland); *Militant*, Issue No 818, 10 October 1986 (Militant Publications, London); *Women and Revolution*, No 31, Spring 1986 (Spartacist Publishing Co, New York).

Banned for distribution and importation: *New Nation* Vol 2, No 7, Feb 19 25 1987, and *New Nation* Vol 2 No 6, February 12- 18 1987 (*New Nation*, Johannesburg); *Socialism: One party and multi-party systems* (F Petrenko); *The World of Young Pioneers* (Progress Publishers, Moscow); *Zuidelijk Afrika Nieuws* [*South African News*] No 142 (*Anti-apartheid Beweging, Nederland* [*Antiapartheid Movement, Netherlands*], Amsterdam); *Nicole in Captivity* (Morgan St Michel); *Christina's Promise* (Blakely St James); *Once a boy with a big ... met a girl with a little ... in a ... and the ... jumped in and saved them. Moral: Wherever you find a wet ... you will find a tired ...* -- display card (Erotix, USA).

Unbanned: *Lenin: Collected Works*, Vol 1-3, 5-24, 27-45 (Progress Publishers — provided they are only distributed by university libraries and institutes, government departments, technicon libraries and institues, legal deposit libraries and other libraries approved by the Directorate of Publications); *Today's World: Apartheid* (John Addison).

Information Bureau Issues 20 Mar Unrest Report

MB210827 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0826 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria, March 21, SAPA — Here follows the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the 24-hour period ending midnight last night.

"Unrest related incidents reported during this period consisted mainly of stone throwing and petrol bombs. These incidents were isolated and mainly not of a serious nature.

"In Claremont (Pinetown) plus minus 1,000 black people attended a memorial service at 11h00. When they left, they threw stones at a SAP vehicle. The SAP fired tear-gas and bird shot. No injuries were reported. 50 black people were arrested.

"Three petrol bomb incidents occurred in the same area. Plus minus four black men threw a petrol bomb at a vehicle of the SA Defence Force. No arrests, injuries or damage were reported. An unknown number of black people threw a petrol bomb at a bus. Much damage was done. No arrests or injuries were reported. An unknown group of black people threw a petrol bomb at the private home of a black man, Mr Vakelisa. Little damage was done. No injuries or arrests were reported. Mr Vakelisa is a lecturer at the University of Zululand.

"Approximately 120 black people marched from the Ikagazi school to the Isipingo School (both in Umlazi — Durban) and they threw stones at the latter. Little damage was done. The SAP arrested 9 black people. No injuries were reported."

21 Mar Unrest Report

MB220959 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0956 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 22, SAPA — Herewith follows the Bureau for Information's unrest report for the 24-hour period until midnight last night:

"Unrest related incidents during this period consisted mainly of stone throwing and petrol bombs and were mainly not serious.

"In Orlando-west (Soweto) a group of black people threw a petrol bomb at the private residence as well as teh private vehicle of a black woman, Mrs Alina Motaing. Both the residents and the vehicle were destroyed by the fire. No injuries or arrests were reported.

"In Sebokeng (Vereeniging) plus minus 30 black people threw a petrol bomb at a bus. The driver, Mr R. Zhamele (39 years) of VTC [expansion unknown] hostel, no 16 Sebokeng escaped with minor cut wounds.

"In KwaMashu (Durban) plus minus 400 black people gathered in front of the home of one of the seven people who was killed last week. The SAP had to fire tear-gas to disperse the crowd. No injuries or arrest were reported.

"In Kwadabeka (Durban) an unknown group of black people threw a petrol bomb at the garage (at this private residence) of Mr N. Kubeka of No. 245 Kwadabeka. Much damage was done. No injuries or arrests were reported. Mr Kubeka is a member of Inkatha."

22 Mar Unrest Report

MB230901 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0845 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] Pretoria March 28 SAPA — The following is the unrest situation report issued by the Bureau for Information for the period from midnight Saturday night to midnight last night.

"The owner of a shop in Clermont (Durban), Mr S. Dube, 40, was brutally murdered yesterday when a group of about 40 black radicals beat him with a spade after they had attacked his shop with stones and had thrown a petrol bomb at his vehicle. Damage to the property was considerable. No arrests have yet been made and police investigations are continuing. It is not yet certain whether this incident was unrest related.

"Other unrest-related incidents reported during the above mentioned period comprised a stoning, a petrol bomb attack and an arson incident at Zweletemba (Worcester), Zwide (Port Elizabeth) and White City (Soweto), respectively. No injuries or arrests were reported and damage was minimal."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

21 Mar Press Review

MB210500 [Editorial Report]

CITIZEN: Independents, PFP 'Insignificant'

"We are sorry ... that so much prominence is being given to the Independents, particularly the new alliance trio, Dr Denis Worrall, Mr Wynand Malan and Dr Esther Lategan, that one might think the country's future revolved around them. Not so," comments Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 20 March in a page 5 editorial. "They have as much chance of bringing about changes, or speeding up reform, as the man in the moon." "To our mind, the Right is the biggest danger to the ruling NP, with or without an election pact. The reason we say this is that the National Party, in the centre, is reformist; the PFP on the Left is super-reformist, wanting to hand the country over to Black majority rule; and the Independents are faster reformists, though they have no idea what kind of dispensation they want after they have granted the Blacks equal rights." "While Dr Worrall poses as ... the new Messiah ... the real threat is coming from the right." "Bluntly, the election boils down to this: If you believe in reform, the vehicle for reform is the National Party government." "In this situation, the Independents and the PFP are insignificant."

STAR: Israel Considering Own Survival

"Israel has been handed a knife and told to stab a friend — or to be stabbed instead," claims Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 20 March in a page 8 editorial. "In the end, Israel, which can boast a greater weight of allies, has had to consider its own survival. When the United States leaned heavily across the hemisphere and said 'Stop trading with South Africa or we'll cut off your arms,' it would have taken a foolhardy nation to ignore the threat. Like South Africa, Israel lives in a rough neighborhood ...." Israel's action "will be greeted more in sorrow than in anger in South Africa ...." "But in the final count, South Africa cannot be bitter about these new strains. Even the stoutest friends have felt compelled to condemn apartheid."

Journalist's Dilemma

The dilemma of a journalist when asked to reveal confidential sources, as in the case of *The Star*'s reporter Jo-anne Richards, who faces a subpoena requiring her to name doctors who gave her information about ill treatment of detainees, is the subject of a second editorial on the same page. "Authoritarian force will solve nothing. An exercise in humanity and sensitivity might." "Whatever she decides to do, *The Star*, and we believe most readers, will support her absolutely." "There is not much time left to act."

Paton Encourages Indaba Acceptance

The proposals of the KwaZulu-Natal Indaba are "a miracle." So says Alan Paton in an article excerpted from *Optima* magazine on page 8 of *The Star*. "Is it true ... that the influence of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi is extremely powerful and is in favour of moderation and friendliness?" "There is another reason for this apparent miracle. The white people of Natal, under the influence of fear for the future and a desire to avoid economic disaster, and also under the growing influence of sheer human decency, have come to realise that if they cannot work closely with the Zulu people, their doom is certain." The Indians would also welcome the adoption of the Indaba proposals. "The white Natalians' contempt for their Indian fellow-citizens has greatly abated in my lifetime." The Indians' "real racial fear of the Zulu people" has also dwindled. Additionally, coloreds would have much to gain by participating in a KwaNatal government. The Indaba "represented the moderate, peace-loving, conflict-hating, middle-of-the-road people of KwaZulu and Natal." Even "the delegates from the Afrikaner organisations ... acknowledged the urgent need in South Africa for such discussions. That is indeed what brought all these prominent people together. They realised that their country was in a mess and, for a variety of reasons, they wanted to find some way out of the morass." "there are several obstacles in the way of government approval of a self-governing KwaZulu-Natal. One is that the proposals do not come from the National Party. The second is that the very holding of the Indaba is not only an implicit rejection of the tricameral constitution, but it is also a repudiation of the policies of racial separation.... A third obstacle is the Bill of Rights (proposed by the Indaba). How can a self- governing unit of the Republic affirm civil rights which are totally incompatible with laws of the Republic?" "A total or near-total rejection of the Indaba proposals by the ruling party would be a calamity. The total or near-total acceptance would give hope to many who despair of the future." "The burden of responsibility that lies on the shoulders of the National Party is immense."

BUSINESS DAY: Sanctions 'Phony War'

"Even the most ardent proponents of economic sanctions against SA must now be questioning their original facile assumptions" about the impact of sanctions, remarks Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 20 March in a page 6 editorial. "What we see now is the start of a new phase, a 'phony war,'" where nations impose certain restrictions but leave loopholes through which profitable trade may continue. "The sanctions war will not be a short, sharp, traumatic convulsion, but a prolonged process of attrition, devoid of dramatic manifestations." "The worst mistake white South Africans can make in this environment is to fall into complacency. The effects of sanctions may be undramatic, but they have the potential to cause the country great anguish." "Sanctions will be draining rather than crippling, ensuring that we remain forever in the Third World, but they do their work so slowly, allowing the elite so much time to adjust, that their political effect is minimal."

Israel Yielding to U.S. Pressure

"The awesome potential of the U.S. to inflict damage blindly on SA has been demonstrated once again in this country's previous warm, if discreet relationship with Israel," notes a second editorial on the same page. "The Israelis, dependent for their survival on the U.S., can be forgiven for yielding to pressures from Washington...." "Constructive engagement has become destructive engagement. If pressure fails, it will be deemed to have been insufficient; if it suceeds, it will be assumed that more pressure must succeed better." "The only remedy — and it is a poor one — is to reduce relationships with the U.S. to the barest minimum in the hopes that the Americans will gradually lose interest before they actually wreck this country entirely."

COSATU Campaigning Intensifies

"The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) this week stepped up its 'living wage' campaign," reports Alan Fine on the same page. "The demands are for a living wage, a 40-hour week," more paid holidays, housing, education and training, and an "end to the hostel system." The political dimension to these demands is that the "living wage demand is intended as a challenge to the capitalist system." "At the very least, COSATU is talking about working towards a social democracy." "But COSATU could also be talking about a radical form of socialism, or any economic system in between. The point is that these issues are, and will continue to be for a long time hence, matters of intensive debate within the organisation."

CAPE TIMES: 'Fair Play' for Heunis

"The Cape leader of the National Party, Mr Chris Heunis, has dropped his stated plan to disclose details of a conversation with this newspaper's Acting Editor, Mr Gordon King," reports Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 19 March in a page 10 editorial. "His remarks ... will be seen as an attempt to bring pressure to bear on the *Cape Times* to modify its critical stance against his candidature in the Helderberg campaign." "Mr Heunis might as well accept that the *Cape Times* is strongly opposed to his candidature and what it stands for — and that we will continue to say so with all the vigour at our command." "This newspaper is happy to give Mr Heunis the assurance of fair play...." "It is nonsense to speak of a 'vendetta' against him, however,"

NP Digging Own Grave

"Marx once observed that capitalists were their own best gravediggers. The analogy might be in current circumstances be appropriately applied to the National Party, given its apparent obsession in the election campaign to serve as publicity agents for the ANC," observes a second editorial on the same page. "What is significant is not so much whether the government's multiple selective quotations of the ANC are accurate but the fact that the ANC has effectively been elevated to the National Party's major opponent in the coming election." "For in their eagerness to win white votes, Nat ministers appear to have overlooked the elementary fact that they have no credibility among the majority of white South Africans." "Drunk with the arrogance that flows from almost four decades of undemocratic government, the Nationalists are slowly but surely digging their own graves."

SOWETAN Urges No Political Rhetoric on Sharpeville Day

In a page 6 editorial to mark the 27th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings, Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 20 March says that "while we must pay homage to those who lost their lives on this day, and while we must certainly make the proper political gestures to show our dedication to a struggle started by those before us," Sharpeville Day should have "a special meaning, perhaps devoid of all passionate rhetoric and political posturing." "Sharpeville people today have shown us that they may not be free but they would rather not have this day turned into an orgy of political bitterness and political point scoring. The irony is that while the government has abolished the pass system there seems to be various subtle ways in which the system is being resurrected. That makes this day more important."

CITY PRESS: Security Forces Day Ill Timed

In its editorial on Sharpeville Day, Johannesburg *City Press* in English on 22 March [date as published] says on page 4: "When we look at it in retrospect, we see what our sad, divided South Africa has become.," "On the other hand, something frightening has cropped up this weekend in the boiling pot that is South Africa today. We were dismayed to learn that a number of white groupings — with rightwing sympathies — have called for a Support Our Security Forces Day on Sunday." "We have nothing against people celebrating Security Forces Day. After all, it's their democratic right to do that. But what is unforgivable — and painful — is the timing of the whole thing. Surely, it is not a co-incidence that this thing was timed to come just after Sharpeville Day?"

22 Mar Press Review

MB220510 [Editorial Report]

STAR: Goodwill, Listening Needed for Solution

Commenting on the shouting and "wild public brawls based mainly on personal insults" in white politics and the "internecine warfare" in black politics, Harvey Tyson writes in his "Undercurrent Affairs" column on page 8 of Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 21 March: "Surely all South Africans should calm down and consider what they are trying to achieve. The issue is not the pace of reform. For the moment it is not even about who should wield power. The issue is, or ought to be: How are we all going to live together for the next 20 years? That is the crux of the problem and we ought to talk quietly about it." "The only way to prevent bloodshed and totalitarian rule (white or black) is for the majority of South Africans to work for racial harmony. Confrontation and shouting will help nobody except the bully-boys on the extreme fringes of black-white politics. Goodwill and a willingness to listen may bring miracles."

'Reasonable Politicians' in Short Supply

Writing in "The Independent" column on the same page, John Patten says that what is needed to break the impasse created by the "hard-line stances" of black and white leaders is "a politician of stature willing to address constructively, instead of dismissively, the conditions of the other side." "The Government must set the negotiations in motion by defining the form they will take. Through removing the conditions it has set on the type of constitution it would accept and through taking away the obstacles in the way of black leaders accepting negotiation, the Government must put pressure on dissident groups (including the ANC) to negotiate." "On the other side, dissidents' refusal to work with any part of 'the system' is preventing even the first step to a settlment. Whether they like the system or not, the existing order is a departure point for something better. South Africa's problems are so serious they are crying out for solution through the leadership of reasonable politicians willing to understand and address their adversaries' concerns. That sort of leadership is in very short supply."

WEEKLY MAIL: Government Looks to 'Brazilian Option'

Writing on page 11 of Johannesburg *The Weekly Mail* in English for 20-26 March, Mark Swilling claims that the government's reform program is modelled on what took place in Brazil between 1964 when the military took power and 1986 when civilian rule was reinstated. During this period "a highly effective reform programme was implemented from above that transformed and modernised the existing economic and political institutions without dismantling the capitalist system." "It is this model that Dr Stoffel van der Merwe [Deputy minister of information] and other key South African ideologues refer to as the 'Brazilian option.' It is appealing because it endows the security establishment with the omniscient capacity to know in advance what is in the best interests of the country (capitalism and reform, not revolution and socialism), gives it the power to implement reform without the constraints of public scrutiny, and leaves all the major institutions of democratic government apparently intact for all the world's foreign investors to see." The program combines repressive measures and reformist concessions. Among the former are "press restrictions which effectively eliminate the most important link between township movements and the South African public," mass detentions, the activation of the National Security Management System and Joint Management Centers, "the use of various extra-legal means to eliminate opposition" including vigilantes, "the forced removal of some of the most militant symbolic strongholds of opposition," and "army occupation of the public spaces used by communities to organise (eg stadiums) and the use of barbed wire to carve up townships into discreet units thus disrupting the unity forged by street and area committees." Reformist concessions include upgrading townships, local government reform, and "legitimisation of state structures" through "widespread propaganda on radio, tv and in pamphlets," "extensive material and media support for 'moderates', and the purging of corrupt black officials." "The question all this raises is whether it can work in the long-term. It seems unlikely at this stage for two reasons. Firstly, the mass-based black political organisations are too deeply rooted in the communities to be eradicated so simply." "Secondly, expensive upgrading projects are all very well, but who is going to pay for them?" Upgrading will force the poor to move to "informal settlements and site and service schemes located on the metropolitan peripheries" as they will be unable to afford housing close to the cities. "However, this process of exclusion is bound to be resisted."

WEEKLY MAIL on Significance of Political Trials

"South Africa's civil conflict is well-hidden behind curbs imposed under the State of Emergency. But recent political trials reveal something of the bitter struggle to transform apartheid society," Glenn Moss writes on pages 14 and 15 of *The Weekly Mail*. For example, "a number of Natal trials have revealed a new level of militancy in Durban's coloured group areas," while "trials of white ANC supporters and members suggest growing white support for this organisation." The trial of two black security policemen for passing confidential information to the ANC and PAC and the arrest of a white SADF major for giving military secrets to other countries indicate that "cracks" are developing "in previously monolithic state structures as pressures grow." "But it is not only the acts of individuals and small groups which trials bring into focus. In a recent development, the state has charged dozens with sedition, alleging involvement in embryonic 'people's courts' which emerged in townships during 1986. The state claims these courts were part of a plan to render townships ungovernable, and to set up alternative structures of power and administration. The resultant trials, thus far largely confined to Alexandra and Cape Town's African townships should provide greater insight into the workings of pre-emergency township politics." Terrorism trials, like that of Duduza activists who may have been supplied with booby-trapped grenades by local police, "have brought the politics of resistance — violence and counter-violence, right-wing vigilantes and militant youth, discredited community councils and police, corrupt businessmen and a culture of revenge — into partial focus. The government-imposed silence which masks current political resistance allows for very little more."

Black Sash Finds Random Arrests

In an article on a report by the Black Sash on page 14 and 15, Jo-Ann Bekker notes that a Black Sash monitoring group found that only 17 percent of those charged with unrest- related offenses were found guilty while 83 percent had the charges withdrawn or were acquitted. The report concludes that this means that "'very large numbers of innocent people are arrested in random fashion and charged on flimsy evidence that cannot stand up to examination in court.'" "The report also commented on other trends the volunteers had observed while monitoring the courts: 'It is appalling to notice the number of individuals who allege brutal violence on arrest, in Casspirs, and in police cells.' Most cases are postponed a number of times when they come to court and the accused are remanded in prison." "'the whole process smacks of purposeful delay or suggests that there is a very real problem framing charges against people arrested in random fashion.'" Furthermore, "the bail situation is 'confused and arbitrary and often excessive.'" "'clearly, bail may be seen as part of the punishment process.'"

23 Mar Press Review

MB230658 [Editorial Report]

SUNDAY TIMES: U.S. Pressure for Israeli Sanctions

A page 24 editorial in Johannesburg *Sunday Times* in English on 22 March says that the relations between South Africa and Israel are "born out of the same sort of isolation, the same threats to national sovereignty and the same raw, restless, driving energy of pioneer nations." "How sad, then, that gun-at-the-head pressures from the United States should seek to disrupt those ties in the pursuit of tighter sanctions — a non-indigenous sentiment which even in the United States is proving to be both unworkable and increasingly questioned. The tentacles of that irredeemably venal and stupid bit of legislation, the Comprehensive Anti-apartheid Act, thus spreads out, compelling all sorts of other communities and nations to join American legislators in their pointless moral flagellation."

Academic Dismissed From SABC

A second editorial on the same page says that "it will come as a surprise to few" that Stellenbosch academic Sampie Terreblanche has been "dropped from the board of the SABC."It is "merely another example of the cynical manner in which the ruling party establishment manages the affairs of public institutions, which seem increasingly to be regarded as extensions of its own political organisation. The governing body of a corporation whose charter commits it to the service of all sections of society should, surely, reflect the views of a cross-section of the community. It would be most unnatural if people considered gifted enough for board duty should not, also, have personal political opinions — as widely varied as the sections of society whence they come."

Government Insensitive To Perceptions of RSA

"Anybody who believes that we can paddle a South African-built canoe on a very rough ocean of world disapproval had better check his thoughts out," writes Bill Yeowart, stockbroker and past president of the Association of Chambers of Commerce, on the same page. "One of the main contributory factors to our decline in international political ratings has regrettably been our, or our Government's, insensitivity to perceptions about SA." "I do not share the view that a victory for the right — i.e., the right emerging as the official opposition — will be a 'good thing.' It will send extremely negative signals both externally and internally. It will lead to further 'walking over' from the ranks of the Nat [Nationalist] Party, which now, really troubled, will attempt to reassert its authority in the only way it knows best — which bodes ill for reform. Our political context will therefore be fission not fusion."

'Disaffected' Afrikaners Set Election Pace

"President Botha's election plans have gone desperately awry," says Tertius Myburgh on page 25. "Suddenly he has a real fight on his hands. Worse, he is assailed from two sides, left and right. If anything, the verligte [enlightened] rebellion represents a much bigger threat to the NP power base, certainly in the long term, than the neanderthal right, which seems unable to get its act together." Myburgh believes the election pace is being set by "disaffected Afrikaners to the left." The mere presence of independents in the election campaign "has provided a fresh, free breeze which has mobilised moderate opinion in all constituencies. They have provided the trigger for a significant element in the NP — Professor Sampie Terreblanche puts it at about 20 percent — to express its impatience with foot-dragging leaders."

SUNDAY STAR: Liberals Protective of Privileged Positions

On page 13 of Johannesburg *The Sunday Star* in English on 22 March Jon Qwelane comments in his "Just Jon" column on the position of liberals in South African politics saying both the independents and the PFP "do not want a unitary South African State with universal suffrage as the basis for determining a government, but rather a balkanised South Africa going by various nice-sounding appellations." "The Independents whom the liberals and their newspapers are supporting are not advocating any change from the status quo; they want 'reform' as promised by the National Party — which is 'reform' in terms of existing political structures." "Liberals as a group — and the majority of whites, for that matter — will only oppose the status quo in so far as their position of privilege (assured by the same system they purport to oppose) is not threatened. What some white people want to see in South Africa is a contented black population under a humane white government, or a Muzorewa option where Uncle Toms are 'in power' while the actual masters remain white."

SUNDAY STAR on Township Rents

"The issue of unpaid rents lurks like some great menacing iceberg under the surface of life in the black townships. In the Transvaal alone total arrears amount to R160 million," says the page 14 editorial in Johannesburg *The Sunday Star*. "Payments have picked up in fits and starts, but there is a great deal of political intimidation against many who are willing to pay." "Intermittent attempts to evict rent defaulters have caused serious unrest in Soweto." The paper believes "lines of communication and trust need to be re-established between the local authorities and residents." But in the meantime, "in the present touchy state of the townships, officialdom must observe the utmost sensitivity."

Economy Weak Link in NP Mandate

Political correspondent David Breier writes on the same page that Minister of Finance Barend du Plessis had the "unpleasant duty to highlight the weakest link of all in the Government's election mandate: the economy." "Mr du Plessis may have been given an impossible task in justifying the Government's handling of the economy. But he might find it even harder after the election when, as the Opposition warns, things may get even worse — as they have a funny way of doing after elections." Breier points to unemployment, the tax rate, the fall in the rand and says: "It is little wonder that most Nats are talking about everything under the sun other than the economy. And it is little wonder that Mr du Plessis got his head bitten off in the Press when he broached the subject. But he may be quite right in saying things could be worse. Under the Nats they probably will."

Focus on RSA Destabilization

Gerald L'ange writes in the "Issue of the Week" column on pages 1 and 2 of the "Review" section of *The Sunday Star* that "destabilisation has replaced apartheid as the fashionable catchword of condemnation in some political circles, especially in Southern Africa. Like apartheid, it has become in these circles an unchallenged accusation that needs and gets no questioning, elaboration or justification. Like apartheid, it has become an epithet, another stick with which to beat Pretoria." L'ange says there is enough truth to some of the allegations of destabilization by South Africa to "suggest that the dim hand of South African officialdom has stretched in secret and unorthodox ways deep into the sub-continent. The allegations of destabilisation ascribe two main objectives to Pretoria: preventing the African National Congress from launching insurgency into South Africa from neighboring countries, and limiting the effectiveness of international economic sanctions." However, "on balance, the evidence of South African destabilisation of neighboring states is more circumstantial than factual, although some of it is not insubstantial. Little or no effort appears to have been made, however, in the Frontline States or elsewhere to collate and substantiate the allegations. But in the Frontline capitals, it may appear that there is no need to do so, for as far as most of the world is concerned, the accusation appears to have become fact. South Africa, in international eyes, is as guilty of destabilisation as of apartheid."

Schwarz on Government Mismanagement of Economy

Harry Schwarz, finance spokesman of the PFP, says in his "Talking Cents" column on page 3: "The other day the Finance Minister upbraided people who wanted to vote against the Government because of the state of the economy. After all, he told his audience, it could have been worse." "Certainly there have been matters over which the Government has had no control. The drought is one, political action from abroad is another. It is readily conceded that it is not all the Government's fault, but much of it is." "We know of examples where announcements were changed at the last minute which were regarded as economically desirable, but were then considered to be politically disadvantageous and therefore not made. The truth is things could have been better had we a Government that administered the economy effectively and efficiently." But "the Government is reconciled to more living standards dropping with further deterioration in the economy in the post-election period."

BEELD on Worrall 'Flash' Vision

A page 8 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 20 March asks whether it can be that Denis Worrall's "'new vision' was preceded by disappointment at not getting his way in the NP? If so, his behavior looks all the more negative, rather than being an honest attempt to lead South Africa to the horizon." The paper points to the discussions Worrall supposedly had with other NP MPS to stand for election for the NP saying "he must have had a flash change of mind and received a flash vision. If so, it is surely a case of political opportunism such as South Africa has never experienced before."

Criticism of Independent Vision

Willie Kuhn writes in the "Political Image" column on page 8 of Johannesburg *Beeld* that the philosophy of the independents is "their fatal weakness." Kuhn says they have "nice statements about one fatherland, justness, tolerance, and equal opportunities with which the NP and the PFP also agree. But this must be put into practise. One is therefore, grateful that the NP has outlined its vision to the electorate a few years ago (powersharing to the highest level, justness, protection of minority rights, etc), and now it is busy putting it into practise." "The independents have offered no practical methods as to how they are going to realise their vision. We know that they want to negotiate (the government has already been doing that for a long time); we also know that they want to gather all constitutional options (the government too is trying to do that). But there is no talk of a work program whereby voters can decide whether they will be more successful than the government. Visions must be tested. Good intentions do not offer political power whereby matters can be changed."

Brain Drain Alarming

Ben van Rensburg writes on page 9 that according to Aidan Edwards, chairman of the Board of Mineral Technology (Mintek), the "brain drain is assuming alarming proportions." "'South Africa must pay its people better and thereby prevent them from leaving the country. This might help to end the alarming brain drain which is worsening due to the deteriorating political situation and sanctions,' says Edwards." "Mintek has lost 47 highly tained technical people who have left the country within the last 18 months."

TRANSVALER on ANC

A page 14 editorial in Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 19 March says it is not surprising that the ANC and its possible role in the future constitutional developments of South Africa is "busy developing into a debating issue in the present election campaign. Firstly: the organization believes it is a representative and spokesman of the black people and this election concerns the future of the blacks. Secondly: the white voters are going to be faced with a decision as to whether they want peaceful co-existence, or a future of constant friction." The editorial points to the ANC's "links with Moscow" and says the ANC can only be strong through violence and intimidation. "No one should be bluffed, because the ANC has two faces — a good one for its internal wing, and a face of cruelty for its external wing."

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Denies 'Serious Political Crisis'

MB201928 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] The president, Dr Kaunda, has said the government will maintain food subsidies for a while because the life of the people hanged on this and their removal would undermine the purpose of which the government exists. The president, who was speaking in an interview with the *London Times* today, said the question of food subsidies was a key issue in many ways and the government could not remove mealie meal subsidies because this would create unconducive atmosphere for production and development. He added however that the question of maintaining subsidies had to be carefully handled on the long term because there was need to remove them.

The president expressed concern over the growing budget deficit and (?assured) the IMF and international donors to bear with Zambia because the government was doing everything possible to reduce this. President Kaunda also denied that there is a serious political crisis in the country because of the social unrest and public frustration over the economic problems. Comrade Kaunda said those who are interpreting the present unrest as a political crisis are misreading the situation because, although people are genuinely frustrated about the harsh economic conditions, there is no political crisis. The president also denied that the industrial strike, the so-called apathy during the registration of voters exercise, and the recent riots were an indication of the people's disillusionment.

Nurse Strike Said 'Politically Motivated'

MB230641 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] In Lusaka, Urban District Governor Michael Sata said today that the recent strikes by teachers, nurses and other categories of workers are politically motivated and designed to rid the country of the present leadership. Addressing a public meeting at Chilenge Market, he said the real motive behind the strike was to make the leadership unpopular and to replace it at the next elections with another government. Comrade Sata said President Kaunda had allowed too much freedom to the nation, which some of the people were taking advantage of, and promised that Lusaka urban [words indistinct] at all the bad eggs in Lusaka by using all its laws to the full.

'Explosive' Situation Results

MB210724 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The situation in Zambia is drifting towards what some observers in the capital call explosive. Sources in Lusaka say that two strikes in the country have disrupted medical and educational services. All the hospitals and clinics in the northern Copperbelt region and several others around Zambia have ground to a halt, and almost all the country's schools are closed.

Newspaper reports say the mortality rate in many hospitals has increased dramatically, as the nursing strike in the northern town of Kitwe spread to the rest of the region's hospitals and clinics. The reports also describe the situation in the country's schools as serious after a teachers strike in Lusaka spread to the whole country. Police used teargas to disperse rioting students at Ndola's Kansenshi Secondary School.

The strikers are demanding salary increases and payment of salary backlogs. The nurses are also demanding danger pay when tending victims of the killer disease AIDS. The Zambian government has condemned the strikes, saying the actions are unnecessary because the authorities are prepared to discuss their demands. The government has also warned that the present situation can erupt in widespread violence. The strikes follow food riots in the Copperbelt region which shook the country 3 months ago. Fifteen people died in the violence.

Strike Reportedly Settled

MB221251 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Trade union leaders have agreed to end strikes which have paralyzed hospitals and schools in many parts of Zambia. The chairman of the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions, Mr Frederick Chiluba, reached the agreement at an emergency meeting with the prime minister, Mr Kebby Musokotwane, in Lusaka. The government paper and *Zambia Daily* all quoted Mr Musokotwane as saying the unions agreed to end the strikes by nurses and teachers while the government sorted pay discrepancies which led to the unrest. The nurses were demanding a 50 percent salary increase and danger money for caring for patients suffering from AIDS. Teachers also (?received) pay rises.

An earlier report from Lusaka said at least 40 children had died through lack of medical care in state hospitals as a result of the nurses' strike.

President Kaunda, Mocumbi Speak to Socialists

MB212035 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda affirmed that the racist South African Government has intensified the destabilization of Mozambique through the armed bandits. Speaking in Lusaka at the opening of the meeting of the Socialist International, Kaunda, who is also the chairman of the Frontline States, emphasized that Pretoria is trying to suffocate the economic and social development of Mozambique to force Mozambique's submission to blackmail. Kenneth Kaunda denounced this and also condemned continued South African support to UNITA bands in Angola.

The Frelimo Party Central Committee secretary for external relations said in Lusaka, Zambia, that terrorist groups in the pay of South Africa are roaming freely in some countries of Western Europe. Pascoal Mocumbi explained that in those countries the terrorists have representatives, are supported by the mass media, and have public ties to political forces, some of which are integrated with Socialist International. He said that some European countries and parties affiliated with Socialist International do not maintain a coherent attitude on international terrorism. He added that we cannot fight against this phenomenon unless it is done on a global scale. In fact, Pascoal Mocumbi said that Socialist International parties should take the initiative in the form of proposing laws aimed at banning these terrorists. Pascoal Mocumbi was speaking at the meeting of Socialist International, which should end today in the Zambian capital.

USSR's Gilashvili Pledges Support on Namibia, RSA

MB220525 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The Soviet Union has declared its support for Zambia in the struggle for liberation of Namibia and abolition of apartheid in South Africa. Speaking in Livingstone this afternoon, Mr Pavel Gilashvili, Vice president [title as heard] of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet [words indistinct] Zambia in the struggle for freedom in southern Africa. He said Zambia was [words indistinct] and deserved the support of all progressive (?nations)

ZIMBABWE

Nicaragua's D'escoto Arrives on 3-day Visit

MB221258 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] The Nicaraguan foreign minister, Comrade Miguel D'escoto, has arrived in the country for a 3-day visit during which he will hold talks focusing on developments in southern Africa. Comrade D'escoto was met at the airport by the secretary for foreign affairs, Comrade Alec Mashingaidze, government officials, and the outgoing Nicaraguan ambassador to Zimbabwe, Comrade David Mcfield. He told newsmen that the greatest single threat to the international peace today is the Reagan administration's public violation of the United Nations Charter through intervention in Nicaragua and elsewhere.

Ministers Return From 'Successful' USSR Visit

MB221213 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Two [as heard] senior cabinet ministers and Air Marshal Josiah Tungamirayi have returned from a week-long visit to the Soviet Union. The minister of finance, economic planning, and development, Comrade Bernard Chidzero, and the minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, were part of the delegation which was led by the minister of cooperative development, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo. Comrade Munangagwa described the visit as successful. Comrade Nyagumbo is expected to make a statement shortly.

Maputo 'As Important' As Beira Corridor

MB231111 Harare Domestic in English 0400 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] The 500 tons of Zimbabwean steel, ferro chrome, asbestos, and sugar shipped through the port of Maputo last year makes it as important as the Beira Corridor. ZIANA says when the Zimbabwe-Beira railway line is repaired, it is expected that much foreign currency will be saved by using the Mozambican ports instead of Durban or Port Elizabeth in racist South Africa.

Mugabe Departs To Attend Pakistan Celebrations

MB191926 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has left for Pakistan to attend that country's 40th anniversary of independence. Comrade Mugabe, who is leading a 14-member delegation, will be official guest of honor at the independence celebrations. During his visit, the prime minister is expected to receive Pakistan's highest honor, (Bikaid Inyanza).

Further Coverage of Visit

For Karachi coverage of the visit to Pakistan by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, including cooperation talks held with Pakistani President Ziaul Haq, see the Pakistan section of the 23 March South Asia *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.